

**MARK
STEYN
ON LOVE
SONGS**
P.54

*He's
perfect
in bed*
20%

**THE
LOVE
POLL**
P.40

*She's
perfect
in bed*
11%

**WHY
GIRLS
LOSE AT
LOVE**
P.14

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**FEB.
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P.34

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**CONRAD
BLACK'S ENEMIES
HAVE REGRETS P.26**

'Steyn's complaint seems to be that Muslims in 'Little Mosque' are scaled down from a security threat to low-key domesticity. What's wrong with that?'

responsibilities as employees and officers and, in the long run, they will fail as life.
Eugene Stewen, Toronto

was a (wide-to-plaque) care of students sharing in university are the ones who ought to be there in the first place. The massive influx of modernity-driven students entering the universities has done more to divide degrees than creating ever could. The culture, the consequent delinquency and the refusal of schools to discipline or expel toward "fading units" go back to a common origin: the failure of most administrations to remember that universities exist for higher education, and not just for higher incomes.
Jeremy Johnson, Brampton, Ont.

'LITTLE MOSQUE' FANS

NO, MARK STEYN doesn't like Little Mosque on the Prairie ("The little mosque that couldn't," Media, Feb. 3). That's fine, but his real com-

plaint seems to be that the Muslims on the show are scaled down from a global security threat to warm, low-key domesticity. Well, what is wrong with that? Does he think that all Muslims are a global security threat?
Dan Newman, Princeton

I AM CANADIAN Jewish and a fan of Little Mosque on the Prairie. Its creator, Zviak Nussim, has taken a very brave step despite what would seem to be significant challenges to present a show that is a lean start to bridge the gap and show our shared humanity. As a Jew, I know that humor has served us well in dealing with our issues and to break down barriers. I made prefer this sort of effort as communication among Canadians than that preached by the so-called leadership in the Canadian Muslim world who claim victim status while denigrating others. Bravo to Zviak and all of those involved in the project.
George Mink, Vancouver

IN PASSING

Syd Shalomson, 91, earned a Distinguished Service Order during the Second World War, becoming Canada's most highly decorated Jewish soldier of the war. The Montreal-born Jewish pilot was later part of a group that resided the Israeli armed forces for the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. Shalomson, who was among the Canadian Jewish Congress and the early 1960s died in Florida following a heart attack.

Abner Abu Laban, 60, Denmark's leading imam, was a key figure in last year's upsurge over cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad. He accused Denmark of being disrespectful of Islam and Muslim immigrants, whose some sparkled last year's deadly riots. Abu Laban died in Copenhagen after battling lung cancer.



A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF TONY DUNGY

The Indianapolis Colts head coach spent last week answering questions about being the first black coach (along with Chicago Bears coach Lovie Smith) to lead his team to the Super Bowl. After defeating the Bears 29-17 on Sunday, he focused instead on his Christian faith, saying he was proud to have won the big game "the Lord's way." Later Dungy, who has been blind before about netting to do religious work, indicated he's planning to return to the Colts again next season.

Good news

CALL OF THE CITY

Canadians have long complained about our lengthy commute, but a new study conducted through Statistics Canada suggests most of us actually like the morning commute while living in the suburbs. "The study focused on people working and commuted Montreal and found there is something about the social environment offered by employment that attracts people from farther afield." Workers, especially women, aren't down on cities by higher pay or better jobs, they just like working in them.

TAMING THE THUGS

Fed up with seeing the beautiful game tarnished by drugs and violence, the NFL has football

since 1992. Much of the advice in the guide seems pretty obvious in this day and age (drink less wine, avoid fat, sugar and salt, eat whole grains) but the new food guide now includes more ethnic foods, mentioning finally have an answer to that age-old question: what is béké (they imply)?

TAMING THE THUGS

Fed up with seeing the beautiful game tarnished by drugs and violence, the NFL has football

FACE OF THE WEEK



LISA MONAGHAN, 45, is a member of the House of Commons, allegedly a link from a long lineage with another aristocrat.

GOD SAVE HER

The Queen's Helen Mirren paid tribute in one of her many acceptance speeches to her film's Jewish subject, declaring, "Elizabeth Windsor at the age of 21 walked into literally the role of a lifetime." On Tuesday, Queen Elizabeth II marked 57 years on the throne—another eight years and 21 days and she'll pass Queen Victoria as the longest-reigning monarch. Her own writing philosophy of "duty first, self second," so unapologetic during the "war first" and "you, as family back in Britain. Movie fans loved Queen first. Mirren, but the real test is in 80 years old white-haired granny named Elizabeth.

GOOD EATIN'

North Canada released a new and improved Canada Food Guide this week, the first update to the original diet guidelines

in 1992. Much of the advice in the guide seems pretty obvious in this day and age (drink less wine, avoid fat, sugar and salt, eat whole grains) but the new food guide now includes more ethnic foods, mentioning finally have an answer to that age-old question: what is béké (they imply)?

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Bad news

CASTRO'S HEIR

Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez's pursuit of absolute power got above last week, when the country's National Assembly voted to give him the right to govern by decree for the next 18 months. Chavez's word is now effectively the law in the oil-rich nation. Already Chavez has begun to plan to stay in power until 2010 to launch his agenda—a plan that includes nationalizing much of the economy and carrying up to some of

the Associated Press. As for taking away, identify them that favour a pattern of other nations—countries it as allowing them. Actually by Jimin Strategy & Research found that while the situation is improving, identify friend cost Americans an estimated \$500 billion last year.

ALL GUNS, NO HOPE

U.S. President George W. Bush awarded a badge this week that was less admiring anywhere in Washington. On the one hand, Bush's troops Democrats, boost in spending on the military by 11 per cent to a record \$384 billion, while cutting \$500 billion from health spending. Meanwhile, Bush's fellow Republican won't like the fact that he plans to raise overall spending to \$582 billion, resulting in at least another five years of huge deficits. "I don't think it has got a whole lot of legs," Republican Senator Judd Gregg said of the budget. "The White House is afraid of taxes, and the Democrats are afraid of controlling spending."

HELMET HEADS

Some Toronto politicians went a line requiring helmets for children while lobbying, but editorial writers at the Globe and Mail prefer a public advocacy campaign, asking parents about the importance of proper helmet protection. No doubt the campaign should include full-page ads in national newspapers. We applaud the Globe's deep concern for child welfare, but they didn't go as far as asking White House helmets for our drivers and for people on icy sidewalks? We can only hope that the next time the Globe calls for a government campaign, it doesn't disregard the safety of so many others. ■



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MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON DIGGS BY A FORMER NDP INSIDER AND TORY ATTACKS ON A TEEN'S PET



PETER STOFFER (right) with Cuban ambassador Ernesto Gueb

WHO'LL GO TO CUBA IF CASTRO DIES?

There was a long lineup for mop-ups at the Cuban Embassy collected National Day on Jun. 10. Michaela Jean NDP Peter Stoffer has his first embassy visit annually for a decade. Each year he asks the same thing: "I am on Cuban and what's missing?" "Cuba?" And for 10 years, the Cuban ambassador (the MP has sent a few of them come and go) produces a box of Fidel's favourites, which Stoffer then shares with other guests. All parties were represented at the embassy that night, although attendance was tilted more toward Bloc and NDPers. Michaela Jean and NDPers like Libby Davies and Catherine Bell, Stoffer's Tory MP Luc Harvey and David Port put in an appearance. There was a round table about which MPs might represent Canada in the event of Castro's death. Stephen Harper is apparently not near the top of that list.

WHAT'S JAMMY HEATH GOT AGAINST KLEZBERG MAY?

Kleber May is a "Vice environmentalist," says Jammy Heath, author of the upcoming book *Dead Green: Hope, Passivity and Unity for Canadian Progressives*. For years, he adds, "she was the cheerleader in-chief for every [environmental] step back-

wards that the Liberals made." Heath was the research and communications director for the NDP caucus. He worked for Jack Layton for four years, and prior to that for Greenpeace. Heath accuses people such as May of not supporting the NDP enough. Not true, according to the Green leader. May says that in 2004, when she was the executive director of the Sierra Club, she said the NDP's environmental platform was better than the Green Party's. No longer a member of the NDP, Heath has stopped his monthly contributions but remains supportive of the party, which he says, "told me to go away." The "nice way" to see his book, the author says, is as a call to unite the left. "The nice way to look at it is, 'Hey, look at that Liberal party that's down in the dumps—

why don't we talk to it?'" Heath has a Liberal progressive posture. "Some members of the Liberal caucus are so bad or worse than [the NDP] outside diggers that the '91 election dragged in with the Reform party." Heath also feels the NDP needs to change its name. "I think the Green Democrats has a stronger to it," he says.

MICHAËLE JEAN BREAKS THE ICE

When Michaela Jean officially declared Ottawa's Whitehorse festival open recently, she also launched the National Capital Commission's bid to host the 150th anniversary of Ottawa being chosen Canada's capital. Queen Victoria made it official on Dec. 31, 1857. There was much applause around the stage on the family-friendly Ottawa Canal as the Governor General worked a sledgehammer and smashed a bar of ice with the date 1857 sledged into it. Her daughter, meanwhile, covered her ears. But the real room were reserved for when the GG announced that the Stanley Cup—"the real one"—would be at Rideau Hall the next day when the governor would be open to the public as part of Whitehorse.

KYOTO IS NOT STEPHANIE DIEN'S DOG

There will be no more Liberal "spokespeople" in the press. This is to prove that the party's not afraid of the media and to show up all the Tories cited as "unavailable for comment." Stephanie Dion wants all quotes to be direct from MPs or party officials like the new Liberal president, Sen. Marc Poulin. Meanwhile, there are rumblings in the party over Dion's continued use of notes in Question Period. Dion, who is usually at his best when he responds off the cuff to Harper's



ELIZABETH MAY, (left) Jammy Heath

assault, was supposed to have been wasted off reading his questions in time for Parliament's morning opening. Alas, the Dion from it has been this far. To take them to Kyoto, the dog, then. They put but John Reid said the PM both took the chance in their attacks on the Liberal leader. But according to Justin Krieger, Dion's wife, the dog really belongs to their daughter, Jeanne Dion. That is why Kyoto is usually with Jeanne in the family's Montreal farmhouse, even though the busy perfect running around Somerville. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Ottawa outtakes or to contact Michaela Heath, visit www.michaelaheath.ca/michaelaheath.ca



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Harper gives a Throne Speech—sort of



PAUL WELLS

A persecution complex as deep as the Pacific coast can only take a prime minister as far. Tuesday's National Post featured Stephen Harper taking questions from the latest in a succession of hand-picked, hot-globe sporting interviewers ("Do you regard Mr. Chassius as election is being in the interest of the country?"). At the first words out of the Prime Minister's mouth were about the houses that these have: "I prefer to talk about our success," he said. "I have the entire press gallery to talk about my disappointment in." That's right, Chief. We're so mean.

After a while, though, even this harmlessly wiggled Prime Minister got tired of knowing—knowing to the very core of his being, I assume—how brilliant his place are, and having nobody to explain it to. So on Feb. 6, only four days after Groundhog Day, Harper returned out of his hole, eyes blinking, to a ballroom at the Chateau Laurier. I couldn't tell whether he spotted his own shadow. But he was slightly spoiled by the shadow of the Liberals, who, when he warned, "a country where the streets are ruled by guns, gangs and drugs?" Revoked in line. (Perhaps there's secret South guller.)

Particularly the parliamentary play of odds and streets were likely to spare Harper, and the rest of us, from the Liberals and their drug bands for a while yet. Canada's New GovernmentTM will continue for quite a bit longer than six more weeks.

When meant Harper's lightning speech to the Canadian Club was, functionally, a kind of Throne Speech. By reading it himself, Harper kept the current Parliament alive, several slides before it from dying on the order paper, and degraded Michelle Jean of anything to do, which is another of its odd habits. But the speech had substance. It dropped several hints about the government's direction for the next half year, a consider-

able extension for a man who does not like anyone in the morning to know what he will be doing in the evening.

There are five new priorities. Two are returning priorities from last session: far their tax cuts and continued steps to tackle crime. Two kind of new into the list parade during Harper's first year in power, a mix of circumstance and priorities: a stronger role for Canada in the world and a "stronger identity," through better at home and reports to the emergency fiscal stimulus. The fifth priority, of course, is to see the world from global warming. Or at least to make damned sure that every Canadian under stands the Liberals failed to save the world from global warming.

In what must have been a first for the august chambers of the Canadian Club, the Prime Minister brought slide-mounted charts and graphs, which his staff projected onto two big screens on either side of the dais while he spoke. The slides revealed little—or more precisely, nothing—about the Con-

sult program on environmental protection while preserving jobs and standards of living," he said. "A concerted global effort to deal with climate change... must include the major emitters, including the United States and China." Note that "must" Harper speaks a decade ago, arguing that because Kyoto didn't include the United States and China, it was someone's mistake for Canada to do anything about greenhouse gases whatsoever. His he changed his mind, given the way that "must" gets out? Given the current temperatures of these two nations who are permitted to sit with him, it will be about 147 years before anyone gets around to *doing*.

Other parts of the speech were less mad-dening, more reassuring. Some of you were patient enough to put up with one a few months ago when I argued here that Canada is barely beginning to open up its Pacific port infrastructure as fast as the money comes away from Asia on boats. Now here was Harper promising "Canada's longest period of guaranteed infrastructure and gateway commit-

The PM got tired of knowing how brilliant he is, and having no one to explain it to



servatives' plans for the environment, and much about the Liberals' failure to get any traction on the slide while they were busy handing the streets over to the guns, gangs and drugs.

One slide was particularly eloquent. It showed that per capita emissions of sulphur oxides and nitrogen oxides, the only country that did worse than Canada in 2002 was Australia. At that point, Australia had been governed for half a decade by Harper's friend and mentor John Howard. Who says?

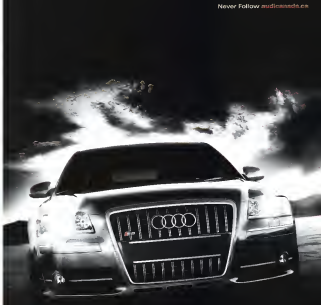
Harper is spending part of his time these days trying to have an honest conversation with Canadians about global warming. "The fundamental challenge of our time is consid-

erably in over a half-century."

On Afghanistan, another interesting hint, he promised a report on the mission in Parliament within weeks, and "a significant announcement about the next steps we will be taking in reconstruction." There's his first slide again. When the Liberals and NDP demanded that the Afghan mission be "re-balanced," he was furious. "When the hell does that mean?" Now he seems to have figured it out. Except when he furiously demands applause, he returns a fascinating prime minister to watch. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Paul Wells' visit his blog at www.macleans.ca/paulwells

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Why are so many girls 'hooking up'? It's their parents telling them, "You need to be all that you can be, and love can wait."

LAURA SESSIONS STEPP, AUTHOR OF 'UNHOOKED: HOW YOUNG WOMEN PURSUE SEX, DELAY LOVE, AND LOSE AT BOTH,' TALKS TO KATE FILLION

Q A lot of parents like come from the fact that middle school and high school kids only tend to socialize in public, because the assumption is that in a group, they're less likely to be having sex. What is actually going on?

A They go to someone's house, sometimes the parents are upstairs, sometimes they're not there, and they find ways, as kids always have, of getting off in bedrooms, back porches, outside on the bushes—it depends on the weather, but they will find a way. **Q** In your book, you explain that hooking up can mean anything from a kiss to intercourse, but that the more conservative in the absence of any form of commitment. It may be how hooking up overlaps with, or why they often that all guys want sex all the time. How does sex strategy in benefit girls?

A It gives them freedom to go after a guy they like in bed. They don't have to wait, as our generation did, for one guy to have serious sort of interest, get out come on to him. They tend to do it in different ways, they're not like us, but the guys pick up the signals right away. And in the beginning, I think it feels empowering to girls. Even the women in college I interviewed, I was teased by the number who said, "With guys can do this, why doesn't it work for us?"

Q If the old paradigm was that girls with multiple partners were promiscuous, and today, hooking up is connected to promiscuity, why

couldn't you see in some sense that a group, or at least a safe place in gender equality?

A One could argue that, except that when I've talked to girls about how much they feel they don't have, they still feel some what they don't have, they're simply not happy doing this. If they had been talking me, "God, this is so much fun, I love doing this!" then I would've said, "Great! You go girl!" Because I see a feminist, I worked in the late '60s and early '70s for gender equality just as hard as anyone else, but I think we have to rethink what commitment in terms of our social connections. What girls tell me now is that they feel like used goods. You see, here's the key: they go into this thinking they're not going to commit, and that that's going to be a good thing, because again, hooking up allows them freedom. And then the next day, they start checking their cell phones and wondering why he hasn't texted them yet. If they do that over and over again, what happens is they become depressed, and they don't know why they're depressed, and they don't know why this feels bad, and they're now in the lurch of doing it, it's the only way that they have known from a young age.

Girls don't date anymore. A date, at least what was once the two of you in the car, driving to the movie or the party, you had to talk to each other. You got to know each other a bit more slowly, and the respect that you might have for that person accrued slowly and built up. With a hookup it's very casual,

it starts out in a group setting, you pair off solely for the purpose of hooking up, then you go back into the group, and you drink again, and then you hook up again, and you go back into the group and drink more, and so on.

Q And there are multiple partners in one evening, right?

A Sometimes multiple partners, and sometimes the same guy, but there's not a lot of conversation, and that's not a lot of time for getting to know you.

Q If it feels bad, why do girls continue to do it?

A I asked myself that all the time. I think they don't see an alternative. There's a cost tag, there's no social mechanism that they can grab hold of, it's the way their friends do it. Casual sex has been around forever, but hooking up started in the mid to late '90s, at least at the U.S., and it can become more and more prevalent. It's very defining of our generation now. What girls have told me over and over again is that you're either hooking up or you're in one of these relationships that they called "joked at the bus," which is, you don't go anywhere without your boyfriend. No shopping with him, maybe you sleep with him, you go to the parties with him. And they don't want that either, because that really ties them down. They don't see a happy medium between the hookup and being joined at the hip.

Q How can it be that these young girls, 18- and 20-year-olds, are hooking up regularly but their parents don't have a clue?

A Oh, parents! We say we want to know about the sex lives of our children, but we really don't want to know. These are all as you grew up in the '60s and '70s thought that if our girls were smart in the classroom, they would be smart in the bedroom. We thought if they could make the honor roll in school and then go to a great university, they would know how to handle themselves in the bedroom. The reality was didn't really see a need to talk to their kids about sex. The only, you carry a condom so if he doesn't have one, you have it. Get on the pill!

Why are their parents don't have a clue?

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Q Isn't part of the issue also that parents are so accustomed to thinking of girls as sexual prey that they just ignore any evidence to the contrary?

A That's exactly right. They can't imagine their daughters going out and having sex with guys. You have to bend your mind in all kinds of odd ways to get there.

They think, if it's going on with her friends, "Oh, those are good kids." And they are good kids. These are not the bad kids, the druggies. I just think they don't want to see their girls in that risk. The other thing is that there's a huge generational difference in the way they define sex. One sex, to the older generation, is something that you might do a few years were married. For these girls, I'm going out on a date here, but I suspect it's more common than holding hands. I can't tell you how many girls have said to me that they wouldn't hold hands public with the guy they were hooking up with privately.

Q Why not?

A Because holding hands implies a commitment. It's a public statement that you are committed to this person, and commitment is a very uncomfortable word for them.

Q A lot of our generation reflexively blame the media for girls' sexual behavior, and though girls are watching a lot of popular culture, and you're suggesting that in fact the positive messages girls have received about being able to love and enjoying sex for its own sake are at least as much to blame.

A It's their mothers and fathers telling them, "You need to be all that you can be, and love can wait." These parents have made a big investment in their daughters, from day one and emotionally, and they don't want to see their daughters to make a mistake by not taking themselves to the wrong guy. From the time these girls could walk, they were learning the values of self-sufficiency and independence.

There's a girl in my book named Cleo

who had just met a guy I called Stephen, and she really thought he was so cute, she really liked him, but she was incredibly scared about this. She said to me, "It will suck if it's bad, but it will suck even more if it's good." And I went, "What?" When I was her age, I was just hooking up. It's a thought that she was "good." I asked her what she meant by that, and she said, "Because [a relationship] is so time consuming, it will get in the way of my plans. I want to go to Paris when I graduate"—she was a senior in college—"he wants to go into politics here, maybe we shouldn't even start because we're going to be in two different places." While we say on the one hand that hooking up gives guys everything they track rationally over women, I think that does a disservice to girls, too, because many of them do want to be in committed relationships and they find that many of the girls they want to do that with really don't want to be committed.

Q In the '60s and '70s, the whole public discourse on female sexuality really focused on victimization. For the girls and young women you interviewed, was growing up that same first period, seen as an themselves as anything but victims, at least young? So when did they get this idea of themselves as sexually powerful?

A I don't want to deny that the entire movement industry has played a role. I also think they feel empowered because of how well they've done in school. That's been a terrific outgrowth of the women's movement: these girls are really smart, they're very confident in ways that I don't think our generation was, in terms of their place in the world and their ability to work and their ability to make partners in the workforce. They carry some of that confidence into these sexual situations.

Q The culture you observed on campuses, with a lot of students are filled by drugs, drugs, alcohol, and so on. But the kids and young adults you interviewed were so articulate and thoughtful. Were they at all bad or damaged by their own behavior?

A You know, it's hard for us to imagine they wouldn't be, but no, they weren't. And that's where I think the media have played a role, that kind of "Guns, girls and the apocalypse of '08, isn't this life? This is what we're supposed to be doing, we're young, we're fit, we'll go serious later on." This is also a generation that has grown up quite privileged. They've grown up having more money than any generation before them, fewer responsibilities because parents have died. "School work is your job, therefore you don't really need to do chores around the house, you don't really need to get a job

when you're 16—and yet, you can drive your car to school." So they've been protected from the tough decisions of life that harden us and make us grow up to become adults. There's this period now that [social] scientists are calling the extended adolescence, which means you grow up to age 16. There are young people who still use the house as many ways as kids. They see this culture as being kind of a sandbox that they're just playing in.

Q What surprised you or floored you the most in your research?

A How little attachment these young people get out of hooking up. There was a decided lack of passion and enthusiasm in their voices when they were talking about it. And also what struck me was there was

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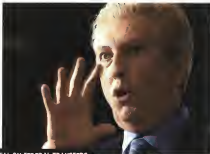
no self-deception. It is as an end state game, it was about whether you got the hookup. It wasn't about, "Oh, what would I want tonight that he really likes?" Or, "How can I impress her with what I know?" The fun of the chase is gone. I was also struck by how many girls would say to me, "I would count on my hand the number of dates I've had." And these were girls who were 20 and 21 years old. And there would be this weird snarl in their voice, like, "Gosh, I wish someone would just ask me out or take me out or make me—I wouldn't know what to do about it would make be like." ■

ON THE WEB For exclusive audio video and interview details, visit macleans.ca/withlaura.

A FINE IMBALANCE

Winning the support of the Bloc could cost the Conservatives billions

BY JOHN GORDON • Once a few days last week, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty plans to sit down for meetings with the Liberal, NDP and the Bloc Québécois finance committees to discuss the budget. It could be a good idea, but it could also be a disaster. Flaherty must come to terms with all the three opposition parties as a precondition for the political success he is now chasing, or Stephen Harper's minority will fall over. The Liberals? Hard to imagine them playing ball, such is the place. There is nothing to establish his image as a prime minister in waiting. The NDP? Maybe, but it would be awkward for Jack Layton to back the tax-cutting plan Flaherty is expected to table next month. That leaves the Bloc, who, after all, surprised many by voting for last year's



FLAHERTY'S POLITICAL FUTURE (JORDAN/GETTY IMAGES)

THE BLOC DEMANDS A NEW DEAL ON FEDERAL TRANSFERS

budget, allowing Harper to drive the first major battle in the House.

If it happens again, the Tories' reliance on the Bloc as such key minority might begin to look like a ploy, an impression neither side will be eager to promote. Flaherty can't afford to be seen as any cozy with the separatists. Like Lester B. Pearson, for his part, must avoid backing the Conservatives so regularly that he helps Harper build credibility in a good PM for Quebec. Despite these drawbacks, though, the tactical reasons for Harper and Flaherty to find ways to work together in a minority House are impossible to ignore—compelling enough, in fact, that government would tend to put more weight on the Tory relationship with the Bloc than, say, the Conservatives' widely discussed economic strategy to find common ground with the NDP on climate change policy.

The chances of the Bloc supporting a second Tory budget depend mostly on how Flaherty handles the so-called fiscal imbalance issue. The notion that the status quo is somehow skewed to give Ottawa too much money and the provinces too little is not surprisingly widely shared by provincial governments. But in Quebec, the theory has hardened into an orthodoxy accepted by all the main political players and much of the intelligence. (Never mind that some

leading economists dispute the whole premise, arguing that the provinces have a much less bill to pay Ottawa to run taxes or to try spending to improve their own balance sheets.)

Christian Bourque, vice president of a think tank with the Montreal polling firm Léger Marketing, says the upshot of this Quebec consensus is that just about any reasonable Flaherty offer to ease the perceived imbalance would be hard for the Bloc to turn down. "Quebecers don't want to see the Bloc as always the guys saying, 'No,'" he says. "So if there's anything on the budget that can be specifically by the Prime Minister, and the Bloc is able to say, 'Well, we can agree with that,' that might be good for both parties."

If Bourque is right, the Bloc will have little choice but to accept, even if grudgingly, whatever Flaherty puts on the table. Still, the sovereignty is asking a tough bargaining stance. Pierre Pappeteau, a former top Quebec union leader who is now the Bloc's finance critic, says Quebec needs \$3.9 billion a year more in federal transfers, including boosts for post-secondary education, health, child care, and equalization—the transfers meant to allow poorer provinces to offer services comparable to richer ones. Pappeteau says it doesn't have to solve all in one year—the Bloc helpfully suggests ramping up transfers over three years—but he



insists that the funds must be specifically for these programs. "Money earmarked for short-term projects, like infrastructure, doesn't count." It's not just a question of money, Pappeteau says. "It's the principle. The government could announce a lot of money, but not to correct the fiscal imbalance. That wouldn't be good enough for us."

The prospect of Flaherty coming up with somewhere near the \$3.9 billion the Bloc is asking for Quebec alone is remote. He is good, but it is far from certain he will be able to afford only \$1.5 billion in new spending and tax cuts in total for 2007-08. Other provinces are demanding for their piece of the action, and Flaherty has also indicated he wants to reduce welfare tax cuts. There is also talk of major hikes in military spending over the next few years. And housing/energy over the next year. Spending budgets are the only money available. The current plan took about 10 percent off the top of the federal budget by cutting the GST by another point by 2011, a move which would drive Ottawa about \$6 billion a year.

All these pressures point to the Bloc having to accept far less than the money it expects they are demanding. The political case for taking what they can get, and loudly claiming credit, is clear. Bourque says the Bloc and the Tories share a need to portray Ottawa as the villain, an ineffective, dead-end leader in his home province. But any bid to

GILLES DUCHEPPE and Stephen Harper seem like the worst idea partners to put the Tory budget, but is there enough money to satisfy all the provinces?

It wouldn't be the first time. Tony and the Bloc's relationship has been a contentious one. In September, with the government in danger of falling over its so-called tanker pact with the U.S., the Bloc suddenly withdrew its objections and voted in favour of the deal. Ducheppe denied the high ground, saying he was putting a Quebec consensus above partnership. "The industry, the unions, the regions, the municipalities and chambers of commerce are asking us to do exactly what we're doing now," he said. "We're not playing politics on the basis of these people." Then in November, when a shipper asked his superior to vote in the House to recognize the Quebecers as a nation within a united Canada, Ducheppe surprised many by falling in line with the federalist position the vote. That allowed Harper to boast, "I'll get the support even of the Bloc for the unity of Canada. I'm a happy man."

Of course, he didn't quite manage that. The Bloc stands for breaking up the country. To Harper's performed ally in Quebec is Premier Jean Charest, and it is Charest who stands to headline from any Tory fiscal imbalance package—assuming they're enough cash to fund a continued reorg of his Quebec

TORIES WANT TAX CUTS AND A HIKE IN MILITARY SPENDING

Gilberts in the House. He is a widely expected spring election against a strong Parti Québécois. If the Bloc chose to reject what ever Flaherty offers, they might strengthen the PQ's case as a competitor against Charest. But that possibility is going away. For having opposed Harper and Flaherty to pay up.

Pappeteau said the PQ's problems won't dictate the Bloc's position. He said the fiscal imbalance should be seen as a Canada-wide issue, affecting all provinces, and not in terms of Quebec's unique internal division. "For us, this is not a question of sovereignty or federalism," he said. "I think we need to vote to resolve that problem."

Sounds like Flaherty might find he has a willing partner across the table again. And what he's lost last year like a few isolated cases of Tory and Bloc deals undercutting in the House might begin to appear, meaning, like a more consistent convergence of interests. ■

CHAREST SHOWS HIS STRIPES

The Quebec premier jumps to a lead, and turns on the money tap

BY BENJAMIN ACHER • A fancy champagne toast to Jean Charest on the way to his new, unopposed, high-stakes appointment with Quebec voters, in an election now expected as early as March 26, a week shy of his fourth anniversary in power. "I think he has finally found a way of becoming a Quebec Liberal," one of his advisers quipped earlier this week.

That remark, on Monday, popping up around Montreal and, while refusing to discuss an election date, while refusing to discuss a major political convention planned for late March, that fading the speculation—bushy-brooding hands and answering questions and loans. There was \$10 million for the province's film industry, a \$14-million loan for a new recreational vehicle by Bombardier. "No more conventions, and a lot of real good economic events," says Yves Dupuis, a Montreal political analyst. And by change for Jean Charest since his earliest days in power. As a former federal politician—and Conservative deputy prime minister to boot—Charest was an anomaly in Quebec politics, but he compensated on the slogan. "We're ready." Once in power, he had the deck running with a pro-conservative agenda, from tax cuts to downsizing government, privatizing jobs and state deficits. A year later, the wheels were falling off. A vocal coalition of labour unions and social activists were securing him of treason, of plotting to "destroy Quebec's values" as he. Even to his supporters, Charest was coming across as arrogant, disinterested, and disengaged. He was not.

So, once re-elected, now? Charest was in Pauline's camp, playing chimney with French President Jacques Chirac and showing Quebec, in a way, as an extension of confidence on climate change, when one killer opinion poll came out showing that, for the first time since 2003, the Liberals have edged ahead of the Parti Québécois. The polls suggested a political storm that engulfed



DOWN MEXICO WAY

The numbers say it's a lot more dangerous than Ottawa thinks

BY BARBARA ROXBOROUGH • It was the fourth act of violence against Canadians in Mexico over the past year, although this time it wasn't fatal. Late last Saturday, while they stood on the veranda of a modern Acapulco hotel half a block from the beach, two Ontario tourists from the Niagara Falls area were wounded by bullets from a semi-automatic gun. Rita Collins, 55, and a companion whose identity cannot be recalled, may have been the victim of a drive-by shooting. Only two weeks before, in London, Ont., a man, Clifford Glavin, died after a hit and run near Guadalajara. Eleven days before that, 18-year-old Adam Dufresne, of Woodbridge, Ont., was found bleeding on an Acapulco beachside near the Mandarina neighborhood. He died the next day, apparently another victim of a hit and run. Proceeding these incidents and still unresolved is the Feb. 20, 1996, at a hotel in Nancy and Doreen Jarvis, also from Woodbridge, at a five-star resort in Playa del Carmen where they were celebrating their daughter's wedding.

It has been a run of bad luck for Canadians in the land of tequila and sun, but it is not unprecedented. According to Canadian Foreign Affairs spokesman Alan Cashmore, 11 Canadians have been murdered in Mexico since 2002. (By comparison, the U.S. State Department lists more than 100 Americans who have died from non-natural causes since August 2004.) The recent spate of violence has Liberal foreign affairs

critic Don McIsaac scolding for a travel warning. "The frequency suggesting that the country 'washes out where you travel' doesn't apply," says McIsaac. "We have to advise Canadians in no uncertain terms that there are risks associated in travelling to Mexico."

While other Canadians, notably Cheryl Overall and Kimberly Kian, the two Thunder Bay, Ont., women quickly arrested by the Mexican police as suspects in the murder of the lawyers, were citing for a travel ban before last week's shooting, Cashmore only reiterates what his boss, Foreign Affairs Minister

'CAUTION AND PRUDENCE SHOULD BE EXERCISED AT ALL TIMES' READS THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS WEBSITE



THE HANDS *chub where DeFries was found, the lumbering and Glavin with wife Jennifer Leach (below). Should the hit list be a travel warning?*

Peter MacKay, has already said, "Investigations are done by local authorities." And, "We don't comment on speculation." After DeFries's death, MacKay did allow he would call his Mexico counterpart to ask for a progress report. "Investigation is ongoing," Cashmore says. As for official travel warnings from the Canadian government, Mac-

Kay has only listed five since 2002—four for bad weather, and one for volcanic eruptions.

But Canadian consuls stationed in capitals, Cashmore points to his department's website, where the Mexico advisory last week McIsaac reads, "Caution and prudence should be exercised at all times." When Cashmore is asked if that warning is sensible in light of the recent violence, he answers that travel reports "reflect a go-to-the-safety and security conditions based on information provided by our embassies and consulates abroad and other credible sources, people on the ground." The U.S. State Department must have different sources. Last month, its website described the level of violence in Mexico as "brutal" and called for "extreme caution in unfamiliar areas." In its most recent advisory, it says that is spring break approaches, more than 100,000 young Americans will travel to resort areas throughout Mexico.

"While the vast majority enjoys their vacation without incident," it says, "several may die and hundreds will be injured."

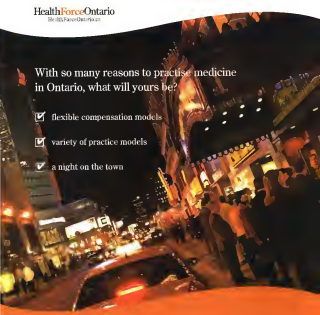
If that sounds ominous, Colin Moorer, a Russian political science professor based at the University of Toronto, says that Mexico City, occupies the country's potential dangers with a bang. "Over every person who wants water and beach and sun is a loosely laid net," he says. "The tourist area is a magnet for crime, but they do have more policing." At the Association of Canadian Travel Agents in Ottawa, president Chloéanne Thibierge also doesn't. "I don't think we can say that Mexico is not a safe place," she says. "More than one million Canadians travel there every year."

When Thibierge would like the forces to do, she says, is pressure Mexico "to make sure investigations are done properly and with results." But after a crime has been committed, that may be too little, too late. ■

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Ontario

BLOGGING FOR A REVOLUTION

Meet the godfather of the Iranian online democracy movement

BY SARAH ELTON • Hossein Derakhshan had just said goodbye to his father and his cousin in Tehran's Mehrabad airport after a visit home last year, when he was stopped by Iranian security. They wanted to talk to him about *holocaust*, the bilingual Persian-English website he runs out of Toronto. Apparently, some people he'd expressed on it had offended someone—and broken Iran's censorship law. He was asked to produce a written apology for a variety of offences, including insulting the Supreme Leader. Five days later, after he had completed this task, he was permitted to board a plane back home.

Derakhshan, of course, is an ordinary blogger. A controversial figure who's called the godfather of the Iranian online democracy movement by some, the 33-year-old started his own weblog, one of the first Persian-language blogs, in 2000, soon after emigrating to Canada with his new wife. (She had suggested the move and he'd agreed. "I wanted to get out of Iran and see how the world is," he says.) It was a stop-by-stop Persian-language guide to blogging he posted on *holocaust* around that time that is credited with launching an online revolution. Within a month, there were more than 100 new Persian weblogs. Today, there are hundreds of thousands. A shopping server with a list of Iran's 49 million people are online, and 40 per cent of the population blogs under the guise of the medium has the potential to wipe it back to zero. Even politicians are trying to get in on the action. The former Iranian vice president, Mahmoud Akbari, started his own blog, and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has one too, though he denies any power.

Derakhshan acts his own internet forum to expound on geopolitical issues, and his writings reveal a complicated man with complicated opinions—so complicated that, to some readers, it's unclear where exactly he lies. Some suspect he's backed by the CIA, while others believe it is Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei who supports him. Derakhshan claims to be a reformist who voted alongside many young people for Mahmoud Khatami in 1997. He says he

does not support Khamenei. His is an odd piece period since after former U.S. secretary of Defense academic Martin Johnson allegedly confined to spying, he argued that the confession must have been genuine. Given the current political climate, he wrote, it makes little sense that the intelligence ministry would convert dissidents. His view shocked many in the Iranian diaspora who believe Johnson was definitely in prison and abused by an oppressive state. Derakhshan holds other controversial

views, political. "If I were there now, I would have to leave," Hossein has declared since, he deems not return. Meanwhile, he says he continues to push for change. He has another blog, called *Blog Concerning Us*, and last year, in a move toward what he calls a way-out, tried to get Iranians around the world to collaborate on a new constitution for the country, using *Blog* as a model.

Derakhshan may be, to be blunt, a political magnet. But there's no question he's a pioneer. "He tapped into a social movement that was ripe for that kind of facilitation," says Ron Deibert, a professor at U of T and director of the Citizen Lab, which tracks the intersection of technology and human rights. "He had his finger on the pulse of what was going on." His views have also appeared on the op-ed pages of newspapers such as the



SOME say he's funded by the CIA, others that he's backed by Supreme Leader Khamenei

views. He thinks Iran should have nuclear weapons as a deterrent against foreign attack. He is anti-Russia while also being pro-Israel. A visit to that country last year—he said he was there to stop an Israeli attack on Iran—was covered by the media there.

In Toronto, Derakhshan has a second life as a Web designer, with clients in Canada and Europe—although, over the past two years, he has spent a lot of time overseas, conference-hopping and networking with others working for online democracy. He credits Canada with polarizing him. "If I had not left Iran, I would not have discovered blogs and be-

lieve that I would not have discovered the Washington Post and the Guardian in Britain.

In recent months his estate has faced a few setbacks. Iran's ban on the world's most sophisticated Internet censorship systems with filters blocking access to all sorts of sites, including *holocaust*. All ISP web servers must also be installed with software to access "nationalistic" sites, and he's been recently notified access to high-speed Internet. Yet Derakhshan is optimistic. He believes the online movement will push Iran toward a democratic future. If in the process it also delivers a live

blogosphere, who can complain? ■

Path profile in a series of six

"You can't just say, 'Here's your budget.'"



Angela Hilders, CMA Vice-President, President, and CFO, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario

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improve administratively. I've worked to make our complex financial systems simpler to understand for all stakeholders—including our high profile Board. Being a CMA taught me to be part of a team. You can't just say, 'Here's your budget.' You need to know accounting, yes, but you also need to understand the business and be able to work with all the players. I worked in the for-profit sector for many years, so I didn't know what to expect in health care. But when I leave in the morning, our patients are often in the hallway. These children are seriously ill, but they always smile. If I've had a hard day, they put it all into perspective. I have being part of this great hospital."

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SRI LANKA: BROOM CLOSETS ARE AT A PREMIUM Sri Lanka's new jambo also 54-member cabinet—approximately one of the largest in the world—is a constant force for legislative reform. The coalition government's cabinet postponed its first meeting and were because political staffers couldn't find a venue large enough to house the bill. And after a series of setbacks, each minister is notified to appear in the parliament's committee. This is the building only has the three closest ministerial offices.

DAVID L. HARRISON

A WASTE OF EFFORT?

Lost years. Lost money. Why those who triggered Conrad Black's downfall are having second thoughts.

BY STEVE MAICH



The thing about us is, when you're in the middle of it, telling the winners from the losers is often impossible. Usually, in fact, it seems like no one is looking at all. Only island signs it possible to do this when you're a man and lady digest of acquaintances and flawed virtues. Those who live through the hardest are usually aware, even in victory, of all that's been lost. So it is for those who were once against Conrad Black.

Sitting in a windowless conference room in the Park Avenue office of investment firm Tuxedo Broome, the man who first fired the first shot against Black skewers him between nose, forehead and nape as he reflects on the whole embarrassing affair. It was just over five years ago that Chris Browne, owner of more than 15 million shares of Hollinger International, sent a sharply worded letter to the board of directors demanding answers about the company's poor performance and the money payments to Black and others in senior management. That life-altering piece of mail triggered a swirling corporate coup, and a spectacular fall from grace for a man who had, for more than 30 years, held prominent status in the business and social circles of three continents.

Today, Browne looks back on it all with a deep ambivalence. Yes, he managed to force out management team that he considered oppressive, possibly even criminal. But the managers who took over, though they played by the book, allowed the company to waste money. Yes, he managed to scrape huge amount of good publicity for taking a principled stand on behalf of investors. But the investment itself has been a failure, and Browne is glad to make money, not headlines. He makes no bones about it—he'd go back to the beginning, he would just take a pass and let Hollinger International be somebody else's.

BLACK OUTSIDE A CHARGE SUIT. The cost of keeping him has proved astronomical.

BY SUNDAY CRISTINA

problem. Still, he tries to remain philosophical about it all.

"It's the old saying, you sleep with dogs, you wake up with fleas," he says with a shrug. "All I could now is get myself upset and start screaming and ranting and raving at people, but it's not going to get anything done. It's a failed marriage. You have to move on."

After five years, hundreds of millions of dollars in legal fees, four books, thousands of newspaper articles, one movie and count less claims and allegations, nothing will be possible. Not nearly, in a federal courthouse in Chicago, Black and three co-defendants will go on trial on more than a dozen criminal charges, ranging from racketeering and racketeering conspiracy to laundering and obstruction of justice. After that will come the civil suits, which could drag on for years. Black



INVESTOR CHRIS BROWNE: 'IT'S LIKE A FAILED MARRIAGE. YOU HAVE TO MOVE ON.'



BERT DENTON SAYS BLACK'S REPLACEMENT WAS PAID AN EXORBITANT BONUS

may still be acquitted of the charges—he is not a wealthy man—but he will be cleared of all wrongdoing—but he cannot win any more. At this point, no one can. A few years ago, the Hollinger affair seemed to be a critically important showdown. It was about shareholder rights, and fiduciary duty, and making an indictment. But that kind of righteous idealism is hard to find today. It's been lost in a whirl of legal questions, and the end of a business of watching a proud business come apart and sold off in pieces. Most of the Canadian daily of newspapers now belongs to CanWest Global Communications. The Daily Telegraph, the jewel of the Hollinger empire, was sold to British's Barclay brothers for \$1.8 billion soon after Black lost control of the company. And the steady stream of smaller asset sales that followed reduced the company to a single collection of papers in the Chicago

'I CAN SCREAM AND RANT AND RAVE AT PEOPLE, BUT IT WON'T GET ANYTHING DONE'

area. Last year, the board changed the Hollinger name and rebranded it as Sun Times Media. As new management dismantled all that Black built, the company sank deeper into financial distress.

In 2005, revenue dropped by 27 per cent from the previous year, resulting in a net loss of US\$47 million. In 2006, things got much

worse. In the third quarter—the most recent one—for which results are available—revenue plummeted 28 per cent, and the company has a staggering US\$149 million in paid debt maturity. In a result, a stock that crashed 90 per cent in early 2004, was after Black was removed as CEO, has tumbled to US\$4.38 a share since. Including the US\$4.60 expected dividends paid out following the 30 per cent stock, the stock is pretty much exactly where it was in 2000, when shareholders began complaining about Black's leadership. There is little optimism that things will get better soon. In December, the company announced it was suspending the quarterly dividend of 5 cents per share to conserve cash.

Bert Denton is watching it all unfold with a mixture of frustration and contempt. Denton was one of the most prominent shareholders against the campaign against Black. He works from a tiny office on the fourth floor of an old converted townhouse on New York's upper east side. On the wall hangs his ancient desk lamp, a leather Davis motor cycle jacket. Nearby is a framed poster map of the Pacific from 1995, titled "The New 5000". Denton practices full-on ranting, ranting, and he loves every minute of it. Since 1991, when he founded full-service Private Capital, he has led his firm with more than 30 companies, using lawsuits, proxy battles and the ever-present threat of public disclosure as his weapons of choice. He got involved in the Hollinger saga back in 2002, and he openly reflects the thought of seeing Black and his financial empire go to hell. But when the topic turns to the performance of the company since Black was ousted, Denton gets angry all over again.

In Denton's view, he acknowledges that the print advertising market softened in a big time, and that newspaper companies everywhere have been struggling. But even in a bad market, he says, Sun Times stands out far all the

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEXANDER RYAN

any sales, neither sales, neither high costs and virtually no progress on the central problems facing the business. And for that, responsibility falls squarely on the shoulders of Gordon Paris, the man who headed the special committee investigating Eric Black's leadership, and who replaced him as CEO in 2005. "Who's Gordon Paris?" Demson asks rhetorically. "He's an investment banker—no newspaper experience whatsoever. Where does he live? New York City. Where's the business? In Chicago. How stupid! How utterly stupid. The entire rest of the company is Chicago from New York. He didn't know who was going on."

Throughout it all, Demson says, the company has been extremely naive and arrogant, treating shareholders as an afterthought. "At least when [former head of investor relations] Paul Hruby was there, somebody would tell us what was going on or not in public," Demson says. "As far as communication goes, things are as bad or worse now as they were under Black."

For a management team that has brought us to win back the faith of the market, such competence is surprising, and the company has acknowledged it more than better. At the end of December, Gordon Paris resigned and was replaced by Cyrus Nowrozi, a well-respected executive who previously turned around the troubled food giant Chiquita Brands International. The company also recently hired an in-house investor relations person to improve communications. But it may be too late to mend fences.

By the time he stepped down, Paris was well aware that the shareholders were unhappy, so says the latest. In 2004, he was paid US\$2.8 million in salary and bonus, plus a 2.5 million deferred stock units. Investors complained that the pay was excessive given the company's ongoing problems, and in 2005 his share units earned was cut to 1.2 million, though Paris's salary and bonus will add up to more than US\$2.5 million. "We had something at Michael's resignation and I told him, 'Gordon, you get \$9,000 a day. Saturday, Sunday, Keweenaw, Chiquita, Hiram, Hiram, Hiram, Hiram,'" Demson says. "80,000 free shares are not aligned with what the shareholders want," Demson says.

Paris (billed as the chairman, insisting that he wanted nothing more than to resolve Hallinger's legal issues and return to his career in banking. As a sign of good faith,

last year his salary was cut to US\$100,000. But when he quit in December, he received a cash separation bonus of US\$12.7 million for his services to the company. Demson was not unusual. "For him to collect a bonus after that performance is just worthy. He has no choice. And why he's still on the board now begins the investigation, starting with the stock from \$20 to \$4, he should not be directing the company."

Paris declined an interview for this story. Company spokesman Timothy Chase said simply that "Gordon Paris was paid in keeping with his 2005 employment contract. No management and the current board are deeply

'FOR [PARIS] TO COLLECT A BONUS AFTER THAT PERFORMANCE IS GAG-WORTHY'



GORDON PARIS HAS 'TAKEN THE STOCK FROM \$20 TO \$4'



RICHARD BREIDEN: 'HE KEEPS COLLECTING HIS \$800,000'

concerned to strictly controlling costs." New CEO Nowrozi is in the process of developing a plan to address the company's many problems, which he will present publicly within the next couple of months. "We owe about our shareholders and look forward to working with them," he said. "The focus right now is on improving the operation of the paper. Company performance going forward is really the main thing now."

But the issue of Paris's golden parachute will not easily fade into the past. It's just an other reminder that in the campaign to overthrow Conrad Black, everybody seems to have gotten rich except the shareholders. Between 2003 and mid-2006, the company's legal fees and expenses topped US\$136 million, and the stock is still running. To put that in perspective, it was US\$160 million management fees, paid over eight years to Black and his private companies, that sparked the shareholder revolt in the first place.

That staggering cost has served as a constant reminder to everyone involved in the campaign, even Richard Breiden, the former head of the SEC who spearheaded the Black investigation and still serves as special monitor of the company. Once considered the unsolvable issue of one group, he has become the object of skepticism and, sometimes, "howl," he says. "I'm just not sure what incentive Breiden has to wrap it all up. He goes good like a lawyer. There's no got of gold for him at the end. He just keeps the door running and keeps collecting his \$100-an-hour," Demson says. "At the end of the day, I think Breiden's out for Breiden."

Demson looks at the minute legal bills and just shakes his head. "With more than 100 lawsuits flying in every direction, it seems the wrangling could go on for years yet. Once the legal profession is done picking over the wreckage of Hallinger, it's not clear what will be left worth salvaging. "It has been extremely expensive. The costs of the lawsuits are out of control," he says. "We've got lawyers charging \$1,000 an hour in a \$100-an-hour world. It's outrageous. But I don't know what you do about that."

After all that has unfolded, shareholders like Demson and Breiden have pretty much given up hope that most of the people directly involved in the destruction of Hallinger International will ever be held to account for their performance. Breiden's investigations concluded that Black and others operated Hallinger as a "corporate shell



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MACLEAN'S



residency" and assigned the board for being indifferent to its responsibilities. But the company spent too long to sue the board for negligence. In October, the AGC dropped an investigation of former Illinois governor James Thompson, retired ambassador Richard Burt, and economist Marie Jeter Keane, all of whom sat on Hallinger's audit committee and approved most of the controversial payments to Black and others.

In short, despite an abundance of evidence suggesting a pattern of cover-ups at the very least, directors such as Thompson, Keane, Sherrill Miller and Henry Kasper were allowed to quickly tender their resignations and walk away from the mess. "They got off too free and that's a real tragedy," Brown says. "They will all claim 'we were misled.' Well you can't be misled if you don't ask any questions. They never asked. They said 'yeah, okay, whatever you want. That's fine. Can I have some more Claret? What for lunch?'"

Even a lawsuit against insider deal disclosure by one aggrieved investor group yielded little satisfaction. The case was settled last year when Hallinger's insurance provider agreed to pay US\$60 million back to the company on behalf of the departed board members. That, of course, will be reflected in higher insurance premiums from now on. Even when the shareholders win, they seem to lose.

The pitch has been a pervasive sense of disillusionment and anger on all sides. Investors no longer respect the people brought in to clean up the company. And those who come in, and have delivered thousands of hours to the case under extremely stressful circumstances, have developed a resentment toward shareholders that rivals even Black's contempt for the "corporate governance gals" who had him fired. In anguished moments, they grumble their rage as never having gotten involved.

At the heart of the matter, the two groups had different priorities all along. Shareholders wanted their rights defended, and to maximize their return. But for the managers, bankers and lawyers who descended on the company, it quickly became an all-consuming crusade to bring down Black. Shareholders sometimes found themselves caught in the crossfire.

In October 2004, for example, Black offered to buy out the shares of the law firm and debt holders. Creditors holding company Hallinger Inc. debt to the tune of \$1.5 billion (minus for a stock that was trading for just \$4 a share) the Staff with the Ontario Securities Commission endorsed the deal, saying there was no other logical buyer for the stock.

But allowing the deal to proceed would have strengthened Black's hand in light of the fact that he was facing in the U.S. In the end, regulators bowed to pressure from bondholders and blocked the deal. The shares of Hallinger Inc. collapsed. Last week, they were changing hands for \$1.00.

The end with which prosecutors have pursued Black has been breathtaking. In October 2005, U.S. federal agents seized almost US\$9 million in proceeds from the sale of Black's New York apartment. At the time, he had not even been charged with a crime, let alone convicted. When he finally was indicted, in Illinois judge set his bail at US\$10 million—twice as much as Bernie Ecclestone, chief executive of WorldCom, and four times more than that of Enron's Jeffrey Skilling. Even that was not seen deemed sufficient. When Black continued to live a luxurious lifestyle in Toronto, offering up a \$300,000 down payment to the Canada Open Company, prosecutors went back to court asking him to clarify about his finances, and the judge ordered another US\$1 million cash bail.

In tight-handman David Butler has already agreed to plead guilty, serve 18 months in prison, and testify against his long-time partner. And it is expected that a parade of former directors will take the stand and claim that Black misled them about a broad array of questionable deals and spending to support an opulent lifestyle as chairholder's expense. If convicted on all counts, he could face up to 35 years in prison and US\$7 million in fines.

For Brown and Denton and the others who endured baffling lectures, threats and mockery when they dared to question Black, there is some enjoyment in watching him on orange prison jumpsuits. But there is more than one moral to this complicated story.

Black near the start of it all, in May 2002, at Hallinger Inc.'s annual shareholders' meeting at the posh Metropolitan Club in Montreal, a disgruntled shareholder named David Shukron and informed Black that, despite the fact of their presence were too polite to raise his, many of them considered him a thief. According to those present, Black responded with a placid, "Sell your shares and get out," he said. "If you think I'm a thief, then go." At the time, Black's response was seen as unimpressive and arrogant; further proof of his inability to deal gracefully with those who challenge him. But with the benefit of hindsight, those words seemed very different. Now they sound like good advice. In future, when anyone considers an aggressive takeover, they may remember what became of Hallinger, and choose to heed those words. War is misery. And justice, whatever that means, is prohibitively expensive. ■



TRYING to cut terrorism's energy cash flow

FILL 'ER UP FOR PEACE

A station in Omaha is refusing to sell gas from the Middle East

BY SUSANNE THORON • At a small off-peak gas station in the west end of Omaha, Neb., a group called the Terror-Free Oil Initiative is lighting a picket sign by refusing to sell gasoline that comes from the Middle East. "Our main goal is to send the message to the gas companies, to the government of the U.S.," says spokesman Joe Kaufman. "And to say to the citizens of America that they can do their small part in the war on terrorism by supporting those companies that don't purchase crude oil from the Middle East."

Claiming that money from oil is helping fund terrorism around the world, the initiative purchased the station from Sinclair Oil, and continues to buy its gas from that company, which claims most of its oil from Canada and the U.S. The long-term goal is to end U.S. dependence on foreign oil altogether. "We would like to see alternative fuels and renewable energy," says Kaufman. "This type of thing is really the left and the right."

But some observers worry that the gas station, which also hands out information on terrorism, will only fuel anti-Muslim sentiment. As well, because oil companies always buy and sell among themselves, it's nearly impossible to track a given barrel's origin. "It wouldn't be on the scale," says Michael Pines, professor at the Richard Verity School of Business at the University of Western Ontario, who notes that when it comes to war consumer behaviour, it's hard to get people out of their houses. The Terror-Free station is competing with several nearby stations—not having to drive a kids' car, Pines says, may prove too much of an inconvenience.

Still, the initiative is talking about expanding into other national chains. Kaufman says that business has picked up since the station's opening on Feb. 1. "We had a lot of people that said as that it came from either oil or gas," he says. "The cheering America together!" ■

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GIVING AT THE OFFICE

Canadian companies need some lessons in how to be charitable

BY COLIN CAMPBELL • The last few years have seen repeated predictions that North America is entering a new golden age of philanthropy, one not seen since the days of John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie—frankly rich businessmen remembered as much for giving away money as making it. The reported average total in 2006, a record-breaking year for charitable giving. Consider a few of the biggest acts: Warren Buffett donated US\$1 billion to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; The CEOs of Golden West Financial, Herbalife and Marine Industries, gave US\$1 billion to their family foundation. And there were 14 other donations worth over US\$100 million in the United States alone, according to the Chronicle of Philanthropy. Canada had its share of big donations, too. Real estate developer Joseph and Will Lebowitz, for instance, gave \$50 million to Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital. The rich may be getting richer, but they're also giving more money than ever before.

But there's a huge disparity in the world of corporate philanthropy. While the rich founders and executives of successful companies are generous givers, the companies they run often aren't charitable at all. Companies don't donate nearly as much to individuals, nor have they been all that generous in helping living, meaningful not with non-profit groups or their communities. "Our parents still have a long way to go," says John Peters, a professor of marketing at Simon Fraser University who studies corporate philanthropy. The corporate sector seems to be doing a little better, but it's not doing as well as it should. Philanthropy isn't just about giving money; it's about giving time, energy and expertise to help others.

New research by Imagine Canada, a charity and non-profit advocacy group, says this is changing—but it hasn't been a fast or easy shift. Only three per cent of Canadian businesses claimed charitable donations in their tax returns in 2005. For a total of \$1 billion in donations (representing less than one per cent of the companies' pre-tax profits), according to Imagine Canada. While these figures don't represent all the charitable

work companies do (they volunteer nearly 600,000 hours of employee time), only 28 per cent of charities and non-profits in Canada received corporate donations and grants in 2005, and the vast majority of corporate giving went to a small group of organizations with the biggest revenues.

Wilton's a big surprise. The telecom giant, Milton Friedman famously wrote that "the social responsibility of business is to increase profits." But in recent years, companies have found it increasingly important—essential, in some cases—to themselves to do more than just increase profits. They've found that by being good citizens, they can boost employee morale, and improve their brands through the work they do in communities, says Peters. The result is charity that serves to boost the company's bottom line. "It needs to be mutually beneficial," says Jennifer Scarpia, the director of corporate citizenship at Imagine Canada. "Philanthropy has evolved from a checkbox philanthropy to a mission of building partnerships."

One of the best examples of this blending of altruism and capitalism is Microsoft. Two years ago, Microsoft Canada made international headlines for its work with the Toronto police fighting child exploitation on the Internet. After a Toronto police officer contacted Bill Gates for help, the company stepped in to lend its expertise and build a database for police forces to fight child pornography.

"We're doing it because it's the right thing to do," says Michael Egan, chief legal officer for Microsoft Canada, who was involved in the project from the start. "But the benefit to Microsoft, as well as technology companies, is that the wider the Internet and the greater the trust people have in it, the more people are going to use it." Last year the program, which Microsoft continues to support, helped the police uncover an international child pornography ring that led to 37 arrests in four countries. This week, the program won Imagine Canada's Innovation and Community Partnership Award for its innovative and innovative approach to philanthropy.

Microsoft's corporate culture—one steeped in charitable work—may be an exception, but it reflects a new direction in corporate philanthropy. "More and more we're seeing a fundamental shift toward community investment," says Scarpia. Still, this type of philanthropy is not well documented, nor is it very well documented on the ground. Companies have been grappling with some basic questions, not only on how to make and support these kinds of work, but how to measure and track their impact.

The idea of a mutually beneficial form of charity doesn't sound like old-fashioned philanthropy, but it's not. It's a new kind of charity, one that is not just about giving money, but about giving time, energy and expertise to help others. "It's not just about giving money, it's about giving time, energy and expertise to help others," says Peters. "It's not just about giving money, it's about giving time, energy and expertise to help others."

EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK

THAT'S ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH A HAMBURGLER When Dante McFadden, 32, walked into a McDonald's restaurant in Charlotte, N.C., last month and tried robbing the fast-food giant, an employee behind the counter responded by grabbing the would-be robber—the man he'd thought he was. After a short while, McFadden was brought to hospital where he died of his injuries. The firearm-wielding worker was not hurt. Local authorities are considering laying charges against him.



THE SEXTUPLETS: WHOSE BABIES ARE THEY?

Six babies born in Vancouver have ignited a blood feud that won't go away anytime soon

BY KEN MAUGHAN AND JASON KIRBY
We've not seen their faces. We don't know their names, neither the two infants who died, nor their four siblings who remain in intensive care in Vancouver at B.C. Women's and Children's Hospital, each so small they could sleep in the palm of a hand, so frail they teeter on the abyss. Their parents, too, are a mystery—save for one salient fact: they are Jehovah's Witnesses. This alone defines them.

It is enough to pillory them in the court of public opinion.

Their ages, their occupations, the address of their home in the Fraser Valley are beyond public reach. Did they prepare a home nursery for these sextuplets, the first to be born alive in Canada? Do they have other children? Has the family had a moment these last crazy weeks for a funeral for their two dead children? They're "overwhelmed," the hospital said of the parents after the births. Who can blame them? Everyone, it seems.

This seamless, faceless family has inspired a spiritual, ethical, and legal debate of an intensity rarely seen in British Columbia, among the most secular of provinces in an increasingly secular nation. Last week, the exhortatory of the provincial government

insisted, without benefit of a court hearing, to apprehend two infants and a daughter long enough to give them blood transfusions—possibly saving their lives, certainly violating God's prohibition on the use of blood, as defined by their church.

The fathers, in a court affidavit, accused the province of "violating" his children. The very idea was so painful the parents filed the lawsuit, he said. "We took our immense sadness and grief and tried to console each other as parents." Premier Gordon Campbell said the government has an obligation to apprehend the babies to protect their lives. "We act, I think, with the children's best interests in mind," he said. "We will continue to do that."

Shane Brady, an Ontario lawyer for the

family on behalf of the church, says the issue has little to do with religion and much to do with "a right to let their children die." The courts have struck a difficult balance. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in 1995, in a similar case of a government ordered transfusion for a premature Western infant at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, that religious freedom does not include the right to deny life-saving medical treatment to a child. The court also said, however, that before parents are deprived of their fundamental rights, they must have "reasonable notice" of a hearing before a judge, "where conflicting evidence may be presented."

Brady said the B.C. government acquiesced by the late-jerk public response to the plight of the sextuplets. He cited a poll last week by Ipsos Reid showing 86 per cent of British Columbians supported the government's action. The family's demand seemed to be because they are Jehovah's Witnesses, he says. "Well, we don't profile people," he says. "We look at facts and make a reasoned decision. The government didn't give my clients an opportunity to do that, period." The case

started in birth. Each time the reduced, "We Jehovah's Witnesses," said the father, "we believe that to have shared any of our experiences would be a profane and dangerous violation of God's law."

The church would have been involved from the earliest stages of pregnancy. Virtually every region of the country has a "hospital liaison committee" of church elders and mem-



bers driven home by a SWOG team of lawyers, capable of arguing with remarkable speed and linguistic facility. The Vancouver hospital would have a built-in commitment of health professionals, ethicists and lawyers, as well as parental and spiritual representatives. The need for transfusions, standard treatment for most premature babies, was certainly on the agenda.

The babies, from birth, have been treated at the hospital's neonatal intensive care unit, and protected by privacy laws and by a faith known for its secrecy. Even the details of two of the babies (apparently of complications not related to the need for transfusions) weren't confirmed until they were released to their families last week. What happened to the fourth three days after birth and would eventually die of a lung infection or a coarctate aorta? Like so much in this case, it's a question of faith, a matter of interpretation.

SARAH'S STORY Sarah Babits of Vancouver, B.C., is a high-achieving Grade 11 student, along with the possibilities like his to offer. She's following the sextuplets case to

THE STAKES ARE HUGE. SHOULD THEY DISOBEY THEIR CHURCH THEY FACE THE PROSPECT OF CARING FOR THOSE FRAGILE INFANTS WITHOUT SUPPORT.

return to court Feb. 25. The family wants an apology for the lack of a hearing, and an apology against future seizures. The babies have no date. God, it would appear, is no everyone's deity.

THE HOSPITAL The babies—four boys, two girls—were born Jan. 5 and 6, some 15 weeks premature and averaging just 726 grams (1 1/4 to 1 1/2 oz). The mother had spent the previous two weeks in hospital but the medical drama began for the family virtually from the time the newborns were born, at six times over. It's likely the multiple births are the result of a fertility treatment known as "superovulation." Such treatments, not addressed in church doctrine, are a matter of "personal choice," says Mark Rago, director of information for the Watch Tower Bible Society, the national headquarters in George Town, Ont., for Canada's Witnesses.

The parents learned from the clinic the odds were against the delivery of six healthy babies. Half of babies born at 24 or 25 weeks will die in hospital, and many of the survivors will never leave hospital buildings, they were told. Doctors said the mother could abort some of the fetuses at 12 weeks to give the remainder a better chance at life and health, a process called "selective reduction." She was offered the option again at 18 weeks. Later, she was given the chance now before the birth was



SHANE BRADY (above) is a lawyer for the family; (below) the babies' hospital

born. In addition to checking hospitals two or three times a week for any Jehovah's Witness patients, they conduct sermons and approve medical staff of acceptable therapies and bloodless alternatives. Critics say they also are interference against inappropriate treatment sought by church members or ordered by doctors. Witness doctrine is also

Witnesses, it means disturbing memories. Just over two years ago, at age 14, she was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer—a huge tumor for a young girl born into the Jehovah's Witness faith.

"I was scared of death," she says. "Who wouldn't be?" After chemotherapy and radiation chemotherapy took its toll, doctors at the same hospital where the sextuplets are being treated pressed her to accept a blood transfusion. She refused, insisting to this day it was her own decision, not that of her parents. But church, or the many Witnesses who wish to offer support. "God gave us free will so we can choose what we want to do with our lives," she says, "and if we want to serve him or not."

The province stepped in, issuing a court order to force a transfusion if doctors deemed it necessary. She left for Ontario. She died, elected by the church, lawyers for B.C. and Baltimore sued the "for us and against us" B.C. lawyers took the fight to Ontario courts. Brady, named by the church to act as Sarah's behalf, filed an appeal. "The government had the same battle in Sarah's case as they are doing here," Brady says of the sextuplets. "Her and ours." In a 2006 case similar to Brady's, Brady waged an unsuccessful fight in the Manitoba courts to stop the forced transfusion of a 15-year-old girl who had died originally from Crohn's disease. Brady had

STYLING: BECKY/STYLING; HAIR: MICHAEL LANGELO; MAKEUP: JESSICA/STYLING

PHOTO: JAMES

blood transfusion out of patient's body prior to operation, so that it can be used later, a common technique in "Bloodless" surgery, a term critics say is more effective in coining "Witnesses" consciousness than in describing the reality of the procedures. Rage admits there have been "failures." [Witnesses] are up to the individuals to decide for themselves," he says. "The Bible doesn't connect or free does." Of course, as Rage himself points out, the Bible doesn't condemn an blood transfusion either.

As more and more protesters are left up to "Witnesses' individual conscience," it threatens to create a schism in the organization. One group, the Associated Jehovah's Witnesses for Reformation of Blood, claims to represent the vast majority of members oppose the blood policies. Other Witnesses are pushing for the courts in the U.S. to get involved. In 2005 Barry Leaderback Wood, a lawyer

contested rights to a patient's body prior to operation, they're innocent and proven guilty," he says. "I know more about their parents and there's a medical debate, and obviously that's the case here. There's a medical debate among experts."

When the parents did get hearing earlier this month, after the transfusions, the government immediately announced it was withdrawing its custody of the children. Ready says that's indicative of the government's weak case. However, Greg Brown, a



the court but haven't been made public.

What has yet to be fully contested are the reasons why the B.C. government refused to follow Supreme Court directions to give the parents a hearing before treatment. For at least two of the infants, the government has said the transfusions were urgently needed at times when courts weren't sitting. Ready denies there was an overriding medical emergency for any of the three who were transfused. What isn't clear is why the government could not have reported the eventual possibility of transfusion and started the hearing process in advance.

The case, then, is not as black and white as public opinion would indicate. Nor is the right to a fair hearing as issue limited to religious beliefs. While Witnesses are the natives apart from the mainstream, it's a little recognized fact that the church has profoundly influenced



IT'S A LITTLE RECOGNIZED FACT THAT THE CHURCH HAS PROFOUNDLY INFLUENCED THE RIGHTS AND LIVES OF ALL CANADIANS AND AMERICANS

in Canada, penned a lengthy report titled "Jehovah's Witnesses, Blood Transfusions, and the Ten of Menopausation" for the *Journal of Church and State*. She accuses the governing Watch Tower society of misleading members with its blood policy by turning the research it commissions, scientists and doctors. More importantly, she argues the society's ever-changing blood policy leaves it open to lawsuits from followers who were misled and suffered as a result.

The plight of the transfused is just the latest struggle to influence debate among or rather on several lawsuits since. One poster, using the pseudonym Linda Lee, describes her mother's participation in a "Witness" trial process, which took place in Vancouver in the 1970s. Her mother, a nurse as well as a Witness doctor, delivered babies outside of hospitals where a blood crisis was likely to arise. "I recall one baby, who, died and that's the last time I remember my mother doing one of those deliveries," she writes. "They even had conversations with lights and all sorts of medical equipment that they would hold at arm's length. I wonder how many other stories are withheld from the organization in the name of doctrinal warfare."



Jehovah's Witnesses have fought against their will and free from any church sanction.

lawyer for the British Columbia minister of children and family development, told the Provincial Court hearing that custody was awarded "because the medical treatment has been provided." Letters from both parties outlining the medical cases for transfusions or alternative treatments were sub-

mitted to the court but haven't been made public. The litigation nature of the church has resulted in a series of landmark rulings over the past 60 years in Canada and some of the cases in the U.S. Supreme Court. Many of the early Canadian cases grew from struggles by Maurice Duplessis, the area-based premier of a predominantly Catholic Quebec, to crush the religious Witnesses to practice, criticize and distribute their literature. Witnesses had a vocal defender in Pierre Laporte, John Diefenbaker. He included Witness victims during the right to freedom of speech, assembly and religious expression in his Bill of Rights, the foundation of the current Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Witnesses fought these cases for their own benefit, mostly as unpopular in their day as the fear over the plight of so few babies. Sell says church spokesman Rage. "It wouldn't be for the Supreme Court to come on the scene and in Canada, I really wonder what kind of a country we would have, how many rights we would have. So if these children have a right to a Vancouver hospital it is paid in blood, by two grieving parents, and their four surviving infants."

What else from Douglas Macleod's

THE LEGACY: When the parents of the youngest twins to court in B.C. later this month, their lawyer is determined to steer the case away from areas of religious freedom, which has already proven to be a losing argument when a child's life hangs in the balance. "Like religion out of it," says Ready, who says the real issue is the denial of a case



A REAL PAIN IN THE ANTLERS

Two years after being hit on the head when a shrouded intruder faced with antlers led out the wall during a biology exam, Amy Williams is taking Penn State University to court. Williams, who was looking through a microscope at the time of her attack, "believed the best bed claims to have suffered from headlocks ever since the ensuing damages for medical bills, loss of enjoyment of life, pain and suffering, embarrassment and humiliation."

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1 million Canadians will lose for the rest of our lives.



9 out of 10 men agree



one, the story suggested, is that men and women are finding it increasingly difficult to negotiate their relationships with each other. In an effort to bridge the gap, and to gauge the state of Canadian unions, Maclean's surveyed men and women from Victoria to St. John's to find out who's most faithful in marriage, who has more disposable income, and who's really better in bed. Here's what our Maclean's Love Poll

LOVE AND SEX

In the face of rising divorce rates and new lists about bitter celebrity breakups, it's reassuring that, by and large, we aren't jaded about love. In fact, Canadians claim to be a rather romantic bunch. Nearly four out of five married couples expect to be with their spouse for the rest of their lives. Eighty-seven per cent say they love their spouse as much as they did when they first became involved. And when it comes to everyday life, we don't pay attention to the little things: eight out of 10 men and women say their partner usually asks how their day went. More than 60 per cent say they've done something romantic for their partner in the past week.

It's heartwarming—until one considers what's going on (or not going on) in the bedrooms of the nation. Almost 80 per cent of men and 57 per cent of women say they're not having enough sex. Almost half of both sexes suspect other couples are having sex more often than they are. (Of course, they aren't.) Part of the problem is that life gets in the way, and modern urgency tends to trade give-and-take for a lack of time or communication. "Most couples I see struggle with

with lifestyle balance," says Paul James, a Vancouver psychologist who specializes in relationship and sex therapy. "When people are stressed, they don't feel very sexual. Women in particular tend to over-function in our society, so it's easy for sex to be at the bottom of the agenda. There's a real disconnect in the stability of the relationship." Even though they say they want more sex, 48 per cent of men and 66 per cent of women would still prefer a good night's sleep.

When it comes to sexual performance, though, more Canadians are cautiously confident, rating themselves in the slightly higher-than-average range of seven or eight out of 10. Men tend to be more critical of their skills than women, who are twice as likely (nine per cent versus four per cent) to describe a perfect 10 in the bedroom. In fact, men are most likely to rate their sex as three or lower than to give themselves a perfect score.

"I think we really amplify men's sexuality," says sex columnist Joselyn Wajsb. "Women aren't used to much on their performance. It's like, 'Hey, he's loving me! I must be doing a good job.' Whereas I get a lot of letters from men who are insecure about their performance. 'Am I lasting long enough? Am I doing the right thing?' Of course, women get the short end of the stick where body image is concerned. They're more likely to say they are very worried about getting fat. Forty per cent of their partners are concerned about getting fat, too."

Generally speaking, though, men and women are generous when it comes to rating their partners as lovers. Although the vast majority are still not fully satisfied with their sex lives, 11 per cent of men and almost 20 per cent of women rate their spouse a 10. (It seems that either women are more easily pleased, or their standards are a lot lower.)

While a number of global studies indicate that married couples have more frequent sex than unmarried couples, it's the unmarried who seem to enjoy themselves more. Come down what you aren't married are more likely to seek their partners a seven or higher (77 per cent, compared with 66 per cent). Married Canadians also have a significantly lower opinion of themselves as lovers (only 17 per cent rate themselves a seven or higher, compared with 26 per cent of unmarried).

Then there's extramarital sex. While talk

"I'm a perfect 10 in the bedroom."



OK, but I'm at least a 7 out of 10.



of men agree that their partners enjoy their night of love



I do my share around the house.



Only 7% of women agree that their partners do their share around the house

is making cheating easier these days, as sex online dating sites such as Ashley Madison, which caters specifically to married people looking for a "casual rendezvous," lobby in a relationship as well important to Canadians. Seventy-one per cent of men and 75 per cent of women agree that an affair is always wrong. Married Canadians are the most likely to support this position. Still, for many, there are moral gray areas. "I think, for a lot of people, it depends on the relationship and what's going on," says Joselyn. "Sometimes infidelity can be the saving grace of a relationship—it blows things up and makes you deal with it. It's unfortunate that that kind of betrayal has to be the thing that does it." More than 38 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women admit to having had sex with someone other than their spouse involved with their current partner. Interestingly, fewer women say their partner knows about it—which suggests they're either less likely to get caught, or less likely to come clean.

HOME AND LEISURE

When it comes to the bus of the sex, there's no place like home. Eighty-four per cent of men and 94 per cent of women claim to do their share around the house. And yet, when women were asked whether their male roommates do their share, only 7% per cent agreed. This is because women take more responsibility, says Ann Marshall, executive director of the Women's Institute of the Family in Ottawa. "If you ask couples if they share the household tasks, both men and women say yes," he says. "But if you ask the man, he will say, 'Well, I took my child to the dentist.' The women will say, 'I had to remember those groceries to look at the appointment, and my husband had to put in the laundry, and he had to do the mowing of the lawn. It was all his doing.'"

Tasks on the home front are still heavily split along gender lines. Janet Park, a visiting chair of the department of human ecology at the University of Alberta, points out that women still do the laundry, dishwashing, the cleaning and the changing of diapers. Men mow the lawn. Yes, they do it. No, they don't. The kids, she says. But while they're doing it, the men, they're only doing one thing. Women make most.

It should come as no surprise, then, that some 34 per cent of women feel they never have enough time for themselves, compared with 48 per cent of men. Marshall says a woman with a job away and a job at home often ends up being a 10. "She has to read a book. She hasn't done anything that satisfies her spirit," he says. "Girls tend to be predominantly domestic. They're more feet it, too, but I would agree that if you men

STATE OF OUR UNIONS

The first-ever, nationwide Maclean's Love Poll by LIANNE GEORGE & BARBARA RIGHTON

I wish I were having more sex.



I have been unfaithful.



Of those who cheated, 43% of men and 36% of women say their spouse knows about it

ALISON KILGUS/GETTY IMAGES

ALISON KILGUS/GETTY IMAGES

I am fairly paid for my work.



Sometimes, I hide purchases from my spouse.



a party of men out having, and asked them if they felt guilty about leaving the wife and kids, the answer would be no."

Asking 71 per cent of women and 64 per cent of men say they are satisfied with the amount of time they spend with their children. "How many can you be with one self?" Mendenhall asks. "We know fathers care that during much of the time parents spend with their kids, they are not true with them. Is that engaged time?" University of Guelph child care researcher Donna Leys says that currently, one with the kids is a top priority. "Working parents prioritize time with the kids above other things—their dependence on the house."

WORK AND MONEY

When it comes to workplace attitudes, Canadian women are not divided, says Linda Duxbury, a Guelph University business professor who has conducted extensive studies on work-life balance. "The one group of women—the business—thought they could do it all and meet their demands too," she says. "But the younger women, they think of you have a ball before your career is established so it'll be held against you." These women, she says, are choosing a sequential model—they're actually living their career first, then thinking about family once they've achieved a satisfactory level of success. This, she says, is why the average age of first-time mothers in this country has soared to 31. It may also begin to explain why more women on the road if they are motivated to work by passion or fulfillment rather than by a desire to afford a better life.

I get very stressed about money.



I've put my career on hold if I get kids.



for their family.

Almost 40 per cent of Canadian women say they've put their careers on hold to raise their children, compared with 13 per cent of men. But 61 per cent of men say they'd be willing to, should the need arise. "Younger men are now married to a different breed of women—highly paid professionals," says Duxbury. "Their family and lifestyle depend on both people being employed. A lot of

these men don't want to believe their fathers. They want active involvement in their kids' lives. Women don't spend as much time with their kids. Men spend more time than they used to."

Despite the high-profile co-operation in the parenting department, however, men and women are working more hours than ever, and spending increasingly less time with each other. "Our data is unequivocal," says Duxbury. "In 1991, we had only 12 per cent working 50 hours or more. Now it's 36 per cent. Canadian a world leader in work interference." A big part of this, she says, are technologies like BlackBerry, which create the expectation that employees will be available 24/7. This probably explains why 41 per cent of women say their partners work too much. More than a third of men say the same.

One might hope people were seeing the financial results of putting in so many hours: the only two-thirds of men and 15 per cent of women say they are fairly compensated for their work. Men still far better, 62 per cent report they make more than their partners. But attitudes have changed, and only eight per cent say it would bother them if their spouse commanded higher salary. "They wouldn't mind if their spouse made more than them," says Duxbury. Ironically, she says, pay equity is less of a women's issue. Discrepancies are more likely to exist between women who have kids and women who don't. "Pay equity is a problem because women take time off to have kids," she says. "If you're a trained professional and you take a year off, don't you think that takes you

I believe that Céline Dion is a national treasure.



Who has more sex appeal?



Who has more sex appeal?



Who has more sex appeal?



Who has more sex appeal?



Who has more sex appeal?



Whether out of passion or desire to avoid divorce, husbands are not always the best. Céline Dion is a national treasure—she is for many likely to be a national treasure from their spouse's point of view. Still, the assumption is that women spend more on their own lives than men. Says Cynthia Kent, a Toronto-based accountant and certified financial planner, "I personally have tended to see men spend their money on big ticket items," she says. "They like the cars and the boats and the technology. Women tend to buy more lifestyle things. They shop more. I think it's a fallacy that they spend more."

In fact, she says, women often tend to be better savers. "Women are more concerned about the long-term future than men," she says. "Part of that is related to the fact that statistically, we live longer. Also, women often don't earn as much as men, so having enough is a concern for them. And in a relationship, there's often a lead partner and a limited partner. One tends to make strategic decisions and the other manages the household finances." Others, she says, it's the woman who takes care of the day-to-day details—and is being directly involved in the big picture can be surprising.

The fact that so many long-term relationships break up is among the most powerful factors forcing men and women to become aware of their finances, says Kent. This is true for women, too, she says. "They're not the first they're working really hard to achieve what they've achieved and they don't want to lose it," she says, "so they become more interested and knowledgeable about how to manage it." That, she says, is the case for capital appreciation, she says, "particularly in the case of second marriages."

POLITICS AND SOCIETY

When it comes to the big picture, men and women agree on one thing: global warming is a significantly greater threat to them and their families than terrorism. Still, two-thirds of men are concerned enough about global security to support Canada sending troops to Afghanistan. Less than half of women say they support the mission. Similarly, 70 per cent of 10 fathers say they'd support their child's decision to join the military, compared to only 40 per cent of mothers. "Historically, it's been true that men are more in support of active foreign policy interventions," says University of Toronto political science professor Neil Nevitte, who studies shifts in pub-

lic opinion. Wars, meanwhile, are more likely when it comes to social issues and character. "Historically, the argument is that women have historically recognized their actions in a minority," says Nevitte, "so they tend to be more sensitive to those kinds of issues than men." The issue is not social policy education for women has made women even more liberal in certain ways, says Nevitte. "It's made women more skeptical on free enterprise, more unwilling to be abused due to the United States, and more liberal on social questions," he says. This may be due in part to the fact that women who are in the workforce only more heavily in some sectors help them with child care and other family responsibilities, according to a paper Nevitte co-authored on the gender gap in Canadian political attitudes.

Still, on some issues closer to home, our survey found that women are only slightly more open-minded than men. Forty-three per cent of mothers and 51 per cent of fathers say they would be concerned if their child were gay or lesbian. But at least men and women agree to be involved in the same way. "Canadian men," says Nevitte, "tend to be more feminist than American men."

Methodology: The Atlantic's Low Poll was conducted by Ipsos Research Group, Inc. The research and strategy firm can report 1,000 Canadians from its online Canada 20/20 panel between Jan. 26 and Jan. 30, 2007. The survey has a national margin of error of ± 3.5 per cent, 95 per cent of all 10. The data was weighted to represent the 2001 Census.

I support sending Canadian troops to Afghanistan.



I would support my child's decision to join the military.



WHAT THE KING'S COUNSELLOR SAW

The man who served four monarchs tells all in his revealing diaries

BY PATRICIA TRIGGLE—A week before the 1944 D-Day landing, Winston Churchill dropped words of awe. During lunch with King George VI, the British PM revealed he planned to watch the Normandy invasion from the deck of the Royal Navy flagship. The king, too, because first with the Hornet Nelson spent, an alarming development for his private secretary, Alan "Tommy" Laurence. It took considerable shrewdness for Laurence to change his boss's mind, what did the trick was asking George "whether he was prepared...to admit [that 18-year-old] Princess Elizabeth as the daughter of her first prime minister, in the event of her father and Winston being sent to the bottom of the English Channel." Eventually, Churchill, too, conceded defeat, telling Laurence, "I suppose that if that poor ship should go to the bottom, you will all say, 'Told you so!'"

It's that sort of detail—and the stories in which Laurence moved—that make his journals, recently published as *King's Counsellor: Adolescence and War, the Diaries of Sir Alan Laurence*, both historically valuable and enthralling. An educated and hard-working aristocrat—the cousin, the Earl of Harrowood, was married to the king's sister, Princess Mary—Laurence had a good sense of humor, knew everyone in London society and much of the Empire, and saw every important Allied war plot cross his desk. And since he knew the diaries wouldn't be made public for decades—the journals of Queen Victoria's private secretary weren't published until 1962—he eloquently writes across a tiny row of books to the point of obscurity.

On the morning of a third field marshal Bernard Montgomery, Laurence wrote, "Quite tired! Wonder whether Mervyn [a childhood friend] does not occasionally bring him to the verge of mental instability." Struck by how much the privy Charles de Gaulle resembled a pouter, he learned that "the pouter is, of course, the most reliable of the two." And again would have loved Laurence's diaries, mostly before the D-Day landing, he would have military intelligence avoided the long to help at their elaborate cover scheme to "bamboozle the German intelligence regarding the time and place for Over-

land", six months before the Normandy A-bomb. Laurence wrote cryptically about a "bushy-haired" operation involving "bamboozing the Axis".

Some names take on significance only after reading the footnotes. On Dec. 5, 1940, Laurence recounts an evening at his club: "there was a crackle in the cover the little boys bring off fireworks on Guy Fawkes' day, which



THE OBSERVER: Alan "Tommy" Laurence

proved to be the arrival of a bouquet of storm-dry bonfire 1 ball put out down to a very good soft roof having, so stayed where I was, but E. Devonshire, attended by his son Bill and H. Macmillan dished up 100 St. James's Street and spent an enjoyable evening

after an hour passing them out." E. Devonshire was the 10th Duke of Devonshire, H. Macmillan's last name was Harold—in 1997 he became prime minister.

Canada was a constant in Laurence's world. He had served under governor general Lord Bessborough in the "100-and-reward" string, links to the Empire's most important dominions. General in his prime of Canada and Canadians, he had the measure of William Lyon Mackenzie King, stress was short-lived to put "Bobby King." After the British ambassador to the U.S. gave a speech on the future of the Empire, Laurence reported that the PM got into "one of his more impetuous fits" and was only mollified when the Brits favoured him to him were pointed out—"a little fustery always sets an fire that creates an a cat."

In his role as secretary to the Crown, Laurence wasn't blind to the royal family's flaws, lamenting their tendency to go "crazy" in the face of adversity. After reading an interview about the former Edward VIII, he scathingly recorded his own feelings. Laurence had hoped his royal career would be for Edward when he was Prince of Wales, but quickly found Laurence was so disappointed that, during a 1937 tour of Canada, he secretly visited prime minister Stanley Baldwin and revealed that, thanks to Edward's "unbridled pursuit of wine and women, and of whatever silliness which occupied him at the moment," the prince was "going rapidly to the devil." Laurence recalled telling Baldwin that, "Some times when I am writing to get the results of some point-to-point [horse race] in which he is riding, I can't help thinking that the best thing that could happen to him, and to the country, would be for him to be bricked in the back. God forgive me," said S.B. "I have often thought the same."

Laurence's last entry was in 1946—he was just too tired to continue—and he retired in 1951 as Queen Elizabeth II's private secretary, having served four monarchs. Though he often helped historians before his death in 1981 at the age of 94, he offered only terse long glimpses of his raw diaries, carefully locked away in a chest. In 1965, he called them "the private, day to day workings of a hard and practical soldier." Perhaps, but the description he gave his successor as private secretary is the true "a vivid, light-hearted picture of an entirely intact period." ■



THE HOLY LAND: A HISTORIC FISHING TRIP

The discovery of a 14-m-long fishing boat in a lagoon near Haifa, Israel, suggests that sea trade was not disrupted, as many scholars had previously thought, following the 636 conquest of the Holy Land. Researchers are hopeful that the find, which dates back to the early eighth century, will provide even greater insight into how the Arab rule in, who had been a peaceful and experienced on the sea, affected everyday life during that time.

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'[PRESIDENT] CALDERÓN ISN'T JUST A THEF, HE'S A MURDERER BECAUSE HE WANTS US TO DIE OF HUNGER'—ONE MEXICAN PROTESTER ANGERED BY THE RISING COST OF TORTILLAS

NICOLAS SARKOZY RUMPS ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

France's 1998 World Cup-winning soccer team has turned into quite the money-making first. Segregate Royal past foot to match when expecting sympathy for Quebec sovereignty. Then Nicolas Sarkozy found himself under attack for allegedly tying ethnic groups to social problems in France. **LILLAS** Thureau, a member of France's 1998 World Cup-winning soccer team, is an opponent of the Sarkozy candidate. Sarkozy, 41, said of Sarkozy has "small" views about France's social ills. He said that after the 2005 Paris riots, Sarkozy must "tell the blacks and the Arabs who are the problems in the suburbs." Sarkozy didn't help his cause exactly when he stated that Turkey, a predominantly Muslim country, shouldn't be granted EU membership. But he won some points back this week after being grilled during a television debate over his views on race and religious groups. He kept his cool, and as a result, he ended in the polls



NICKY MOSS ATTACKED BY PARASITES

Britain's leading female paraglider lucky to be alive after an aerial encounter with two Australian eagles some 8,000 feet over the hills of New South Wales. At Nicky Moss was practicing for the world paragliding championships, the wedge-tailed eagles—each with wingspans of more than six feet—started circling her. She panicked, dropping her paraglider canopy, ripping into a wild chase. One bird became caught in the canopy lines and died down towards her, striking her face. "It was up in the air and me on the back of the head, then you struggle then the glider, which collapsed," she says. "So I had a very, very large bird wrapped up something beside me at I screamed back." Moss was just 150 feet from the earth when the eagle finally let her alone, and she managed to land safely. "I have never been so relieved to reach the ground," the 30-year-old later acknowledged. But the descent's plan to give up the sport, describing the encounter as a mere "interesting turn." About what? Except for the moment who kept her off the hills for her

TERESA CASCIOLI THAT'S A LOT OF BUCKS FOR BEER

Since Teresa Cascioli took over as the CEO of Hamilton, Ont.-based discount brewery Labcorp in 1999, it's given free beer to its customers as a way of promoting its products. It's the third largest beer maker in the ultra-competitive Ontario market. That's thanks to Cascioli's "beer-bus" model—the company has made a small fortune selling 120,000 a year. But now, a \$200,000 a year in sales led by Labcorp Brewing Co., which combined with Hamilton County accounts for 61 per cent of Canada's \$5.5-billion-a-year industry, could turn the local discount brewery into a major business. And Cascioli, who owns 33.6 per cent of Labcorp, says, "It's not in line to see \$40 million in free beer. Some are going to be sold to the local industry's price war. It has others saying that Cascioli has gone from 'serious no bullshit' to her response: "This isn't just about beer, this is about what's right for everyone. This is my job." For now, at least.

STAVROS DIMAS THAT'S GET THE EURO CANNAMAKERS FUMING

It's only a success, but on a continent known for producing some of the finest automobiles on the planet, it's getting a lot of attention. Stavros Dimas, the EU's environment commissioner, is reportedly considering a Japanese car. According to a spokeswoman, Dimas wants the green car in mind and is looking at replacing his Mercedes this spring with a fuel-efficient Toyota Lexus or a Prius, which is made in a union-free electric motor. The hybrid Prius is the car of choice for the 2004 European environmental movement. And for a politician fighting to cut greenhouse gases, the Prius would seem a wise choice. After all, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso has come under fire for driving a gas-guzzling SUV. The move, however, would put Dimas against a powerful industry in Europe—one as which he is trying to impose strict CO₂ limits. Among very good alternative came courtesy of an environmentalist-minded politician who suggested that Dimas get around Brussels on a bike.



CLAUDIA MITCHELL A REAL FEEL-GOOD STORY

Former U.S. Marine Claudia Mitchell, the first woman to be awarded the Purple Heart, has been recognized with a "Bronze Star" awarded by the House. "I just think about moving my hand and elbow," she says, "and they move." She was injured a number of times. Using a technique known as targeted muscle reinnervation, a doctor at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago removed nerves that once controlled the 36-year-old's left arm—which was amputated at the shoulder after a serious motorcycle accident in 2004—to a patch of skin on her chest, which when pressed gives the sensation that her artificial hand is being touched. Doctors reported that Mitchell can now apply makeup, cut her food and do simple household tasks up to six times faster than she would be capable of with a traditional prosthetic limb. The arm may well be worth attention on the basis that she accurately mimics the feeling of touch and movement. Mitchell's success will give a helping hand to other amputees such as war vets.

MICHAEL DELL A NOT-SO-TRIUMPHANT RETURN

The man who built a computer colossus returned to the executive seat just in time to be slapped with a lawsuit alleging that his company took billions in secret kickbacks from chip-maker Intel. Michael Dell and former CEO Kevin Rollins were both named in the suit, which claims the payments were meant to ensure Dell Inc. would not use other chip suppliers, and that the money was not properly accounted for or disclosed. The lawsuit—filed by investors—says another major shareholder already misled by the Texas and WorldCom scandals. It's also a blow to Dell himself. Days earlier, the 31-year-old had returned to the company office in hopes of turning around a company that has suffered through a series of bad quarters. But if the cash ended up in the accounts of service, employees and executives, it might question the accuracy of his plan to cut losses and management positions.

FELIPE CALDERÓN WRAPPED UP IN A TORTILLA SPIN

It is accepted wisdom in Mexican politics that as the price of tortillas goes, so does the government. So even though he has been going for his battle against organized crime and drug cartels since taking office in December, president Felipe Calderón finds himself fighting to help the so-called "Tortilla Crisis." With the demand for tortillas rising, especially in the United States, on the rise, corn is an increasingly expensive commodity in Mexico, that means higher tortilla prices—a staple for many poor Mexican families. They've gone from five pesos per kilogram to as high as 25. Calderón set up a "tortilla" task force with many of the big problems, but it's only voluntary and non-binding measures. Outraged by what they feel is a lack of government action, hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets of Mexico City last week to protest. "Calderón isn't just a thief, he's a murderer because he wants us to die of hunger," said one protester.

SHEILA WATT-CLOUTIER THE COLD, HARD TRUTH

For celebrated front leader and environmental activist Sheila Watt-Clouter, the recent Nobel Peace Prize nomination could be her come. Already a UN "Champion of the Earth" and an officer of the Order of Canada, the 39-year-old says: "These honours and awards I have attention on who is happening to our planet." Staunch, making personal, thinking, not just, making the "vision" of species never better seen in the Arctic, explains Watt-Clouter, who is writing *The Right to Be Cold*. She calls climate change "the defining issue of our time" and also co-edited a petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, accusing the U.S. of its greenhouse gas emissions and global warming. "The Arctic is the world's climate change barometer," says Watt-Clouter. "Just as the accuracy in that barometer. What is happening in the Arctic now will happen soon for the world."



STAVROS DIMAS (LEFT) AND CLAUDIA MITCHELL (RIGHT) ARE AMONG THE NEWSMAKERS OF THE WEEK.

STAVROS DIMAS (LEFT) AND CLAUDIA MITCHELL (RIGHT) ARE AMONG THE NEWSMAKERS OF THE WEEK.

with little after both her own apartment and later her room at the Chateau hotel were set ablaze by candles as she lay asleep. Eddie escaped the first fire with little more than her trademark leopard coat, but her ability to remain herapathetic seemed undiminished. All she needed was a black turtleneck, for her real her Cleopatra makeup.

Eddie is said to be one of pop art's most iconic figures, and in her vivacity and confusion, her drug dependence, perhaps she is. On the other hand, Andy Warhol was something of a genius and a devil observer of the period. As his diaries reveal, he had an obsession about the commercial aspect of pop art and the ease with which a gallery owner could be coaxed. But even Warhol might have been astounded at how far the seductive depiction of a barman and social would have a pro value increase of \$1.8 million to \$4.3 million as this week's Saturday's sale in London.

While Andy was making his impression on the pop-art world, Eddie's legacy was becoming her "look," though Eddie herself rather ingeniously charmed her style was never deliberate. Still, it has been influencing the fashion world ever since John Galiano named her his muse for the Dior 2005 spring haute couture and his own line of accessories to wear the same year.

The film *Factory Girl* handles a fashion season heavily influenced by the Eddie look—basically the swing age London street style of Mary Quant and Causley Street mixtures, skirted dresses, black night. Fashion always has to update an old look—verbally if not actually—as we are told this is all being done with a new perspective, fashion design—cover model the 2005 "Calcutta Jane" look of James Calcutta or the futuristic, Courmayside dress. It's an easy look for the young. Steve Miller claims to be battling with product to get every item she wore in the film.

At Karl Lagerfeld's spring 2007 Chanel show, every model was Eddie with black tight underwired corsets for his older married clients. For the real look—apart from eBay, which is featuring Eddie Sedgwick items—go to the spring's Kenzo collection. Eddie was briefly a fitting model for Kenzo—she was wearing one of my dresses when her ap-

SIENNA MILLER plays Eddie in the movie. GALLIANO named Eddie his muse for his 2005 spring haute couture (left) (left)



Her life was shopping, drugging and parties. Questioned by a reporter about the 'Better dead than red' slogan of the time, Sedgwick thought it was a reference to reading.



ment caught fire. Kenzo proudly claims—and the puff blower still does. Eddie lived his reputation. One can't help thinking it is rather paradoxical, the same for the one in a world where Western demographics (also known as "women") are aging. Perhaps this diagnosis facing pension age has increased the highlights of their youth.

The same look is easy to spot—cheaply basic items include the body stocking (in Eddie's day a "leopard"), loss of black eyeliner

and hair cut in bangs to a long bob model (see Kenzo's plus long straightening) to the shoulder and a plain pony in it. The proper dressmaker was doing hips and waistlines and black night fishnet stockings are better than the black and blue legged look for women with pale skin and over 40 (just what most of us see to do with the little shorts Eddie wore as well and the perfect trousers). In shops this spring is not clear, apart from wearing off women when they will disappear from the racks.

The critics blow away some of the more convincing means of the film—as well as its golden goddess and felt pools victims (and, as compensation for ingenuitous madness, it gave us the most interesting commentary and Zola the New Journalism of its best age, the 1960s, Tom Wolfe.

In "Furth's Sign: The New Chic," Wolfe took on that new self shot of stars New York and every, anxious to be seen as "with it" rich businessmen and their wives, society ladies, and celebrities and the fashioning of the time, all competing with one another for "a darling (woman) drug dealer" for their parties and smooching over the latest sophisticated chic pop art.

Earlier that same year, Eddie Sedgwick was a leading light of the pop-art scene. Tom Wolfe described in *The Painted Word* the scene of those "how did Eddie girls, with their hips cocked and the waves of their hair dancing them into hemphires while they shot Calcutta pens through their little eyes." By 1971, her still beautiful face, face and genius, self-looking into a yellow after overdoing, the hair managed her own distraction. Small comfort that the society goddess had at least finally made herself into that over-her-shoulder creature on a white, horse to God damn of the movie's gaze.

THE LATEST THING IN... MEN'S PANTS

Creative Centipede, creative director for the Italian clothing company Marni, adds skin-tight leggings—made of merino, cotton and wool—to her latest men's collection. She's confident that many men this fall will realize traditional pants with tight "skin socks" wear has become a part of our fashion vocabulary. She says, "It's easy to imagine even a rising the idea of making a new streamlined version of the sweatpant."



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SOMMOWITERS Richard Rodgers (right) and Lorenz Hart: There's only one great Valentine love song, says Steve McFurry. Valentine.

They make us smile with our heart

How do you write a song that says 'I love you' in a way that hasn't been said before?

BY MARK HYMAN

Back in my teenage years, I started doing little story behind the song features—first for radio, then on TV and in print. And I would have to say, after interviewing hundreds of composers and lyricists and sifting out all the best “And then I wrote...” anecdotes, the most fascinating aspect of the whole business was the huge reservoir of great songs with no stories behind them, no anecdotes. As Lennon and McCartney once said, “There are two things we always did when we sat down and wrote a song: First we sat down. Then we wrote a song.”

A lot of songs get written that way. Here's one you hear a lot around the second week of February.

My feisty Valentine
Sweetest come online
You make me smile with my heart.

There are thousands of love songs for Valentine's Day but only one great Valentine love song. After Sinatra released it in the lead on the first set of songs for *Three Weeks* in 1954, everyone and his aunt started singing it, to the point where, at the dawn of the LP era, the joke was that it would be easier to list the albums that didn't have *My Feisty Valentine* on them. Fifty years on, the joke stands up almost as well as the song. Sheryl Crow and Christina Aguilera and Rod Stewart and Aimee Baker have all recorded the number in recent years. But whose did it come from? How did it get there good? It was written by Rodgers and Hart in 1937, for a show called *Behold in Arms*, and it was sung up to the leading man, who was called “Val,” short for “Valentine,” an imperfect object of the young lady's affection.

Is your figure less than Greek?
Is your mouth a little weak?

So it was written to be sung to a guy called Valentine. And that's pretty much all we know. Richard Rodgers' *Maxwell Smart* has nothing to say, in keeping with its generally apocryphal text (at one point, Rodgers' loon-whole male a laud of prose from David Byrne's biography of him—a bizarre example of a biographer regarding a biographer as a more reliable guide to himself). So you turn to *Bill Friedland's* 2002 offering, *After Dark: Musicians' A Biography of Twelve of America's Most Popular Songs*, one of the dozen biographies of popular music. And, under all the fine insights into the minds of Billie Davis's '58 recording with John Coltrane versus his '54 recording with Billie Holiday, it's easy to overlook Mr. Friedland's account of the actual creation of the music and lyric.

On some points during the writing of the Broadway version, Rodgers and Hart came up with the song *My Feisty Valentine*.

And that's it. That's all there is. First they sat down. Then they wrote a song. And we'll never know the process by which Lorenz Hart decided he could use a six-syllable word in a romantic ballad and make it sound utterly natural.

Their tools are laughable.



FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT... JUCK FINN'S BAD BOY *Wink—almond, nuts and one of the roughest characters in American fiction—finds his way into Clint's embrace (see Random House). In Mark Twain's book, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Huck and Jim find Pap's body in a house floating down the Mississippi. Clint's words backwards from there, re-imagining Twain's fictional world and one-Clint War America through the lens of another one of our favorite literary relations.*

Unphotographable.

That was something... Rodgers that upon embarking on a career in the music business, he decided to avoid the usual big note bombard and instead captured all the ache and yearning of the words: “Song, little unknown, stay!” A love song is a very fragile thing, and the false note of the wrong word on the wrong note can tip the thing into absurdity. Perhaps that's why it's something you can only understand intuitively, but it doesn't stop publishers cranking out a gazillion books on how to write successful songs with rules like *If They Ain't Got It*, *New Case White* (Song) (that's a Rodgers and Hart allusion, too).

People have been handing out advice to budding songwriters since at least 1916, when Charles K. Harris published his songwriting guide. Mr. Harris was the composer of *After The Ball*, a song that was coming his \$25,000 a week in 1916, but when 25,000 bucks was still 25,000 bucks. And he was full of tips on how you could do likewise. I recently read *Stand For Glory*, the famous 1941 memoir by a very different kind of songwriter, Woody Guthrie. But he too felt that, if they ask you, you can't write a song.



When it's the size, you generally need a professional to help you say it in a fresh way.

“If you think of something new to say, if a cyclone rakes, or a flood winds the country, or a school of fish book children in love to death along the road, if a big ship goes down, and an airplane falls in your neighborhood, or an outlaw stands in out with the desperado, or the working people go on strike, or a woman, you'll find a thousand of things you can set down and make up a song about.”

Unluckily if an airplane does into your neighborhood as the owner grade school friends to death on the bus, I think most of us could rise to the occasion and get some kind of time zone *Week Of The Columbia* *Personnel* out of it. Indeed, Guthrie's list is so beguiling you're tempted to sing, but all someone can build and produce the all time great good-fellows pilot of folk song, largely that what do you do when there's no outlaw shooting up the school bus during the options? How do you write a song that says “I love you” in a way that hasn't been said before? In *If They Ain't Got It*, *New Case White* (Song), *Wink* and *Wink* (Harris) (see composed).

HE'S WRITTEN LOVE SONGS FOR EVERYONE ELSE. THIS WAS THE ONE HE'D LIKE TO HAVE HAD SOMEONE SING TO HIM. NO ONE EVER DID.

the songs for *The Pleasant Adventure* and *The Swinging* (Delmark) were.

“Before the 1930s, lyrics primarily dealt with love, and so happy, to general terms, such as ‘You’re looking like a man,’ or ‘Love Wild In.’ Now the field has opened to encompass all problems, and the subject are characterized by metaphor. Consider the classic you meet an angel—same as ‘On Top Of The World’ (Orion) are ‘Always Again,’ ‘Not only.’ If you're at a carnival, you're likely to run into a ‘Crazy Woman.’”

Indeed, in fairness, although they express it very badly, they're so to something. In essence, like the specifics of the Woody Guthrie version, and instead of writing's up to a death song, one is as the song for

a love song.
I took a trip on a train
And I thought about you

Forget the long-distance train to death and the bus to the plane. “A poem should address the specific,” says Garcia, “and if there be anything about how he will survive the universal.” Today, though, the universal is out of fashion. In the new book *Fading It: The Quarter-Century of Popular Music*, Hugh Barker and Vera Taylor address, in part of that song, the rise of songwriting in popular music. “Norwegian Wood was a key transitional song for Lennon because for the first time he found a way to write a song directly about himself. The actual lyric is somewhat guarded, partly because he was speaking about a one-night stand, and, as a married man, was reluctant to be too confessional. But the song is rooted in a very notable version of Lennon's self and has a confessional tone.”

Well, if you're looking for a song about John Lennon, that's small. Over the other, like he's looking for a song that general application, stick with *Yesterday*. If I had to choose a speaking chance you can grab something from real life. Let's look at one: based some guy in a bar snoring at some departing friend. “One of those days that beauty goes with love,” and wrote it up for Nancy Sinatra. *Stella Winter* (Delmark) of *Swampy*, Ohio, overheard someone in a drugstore say, “I want to be around to pick up the pieces when somebody breaks his heart,” and used it to Johnny Mercer, who gave her half the royalties. In such circumstances, even the cheesiest among us can find the muse in heartbreak and longing and alight on some original formulation.

But, when you're just in love and she's the one you want to be with her finest and good, that's beautiful, you generally need a professional to help you say it in a fresh way. With the iconic love songs—the ones that Rod Stewart sings like *Great American* *Seagulls* (Delmark)—there's a lot of autobiography, no melodies if you ever do find yourself in a love worthy of *I Had It In You*, *As Time Goes By*, *The Way We Look Tonight*, *I'll Be Seeing You*, you'll be too much to look at the fresh songs or original metaphor. So instead, a couple of half-working professionals at down and write it, and say it for everyone. And don't let a new love to look at the whole music but that can teach you how to do that. ■

MACLEAN'S BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY BRAD STEPHENS

Fiction LAST WEEK: *THE HOUSE OF SEVEN GATES*

- 1 **THE CUSTOMER FOR PARADISE** 4 (90)
by Wayne Johnston
- 2 **YSABEL** by Gay Diamond Key 3 (8)
- 3 **THE BOOK OF WEDGES** 4 (12)
by Lawrence Sanders
- 4 **HOUSE OF MEETINGS** 4 (12)
by Martin Amis
- 5 **THE DIVINE LIFE OF THE BRIDGE** 7 (20)
by Mary Lavin
- 6 **YOU SUCK** 4 (12)
by Christopher Moore
- 7 **MOTHERS AND SONS** 1 (14)
by Celia Taylor
- 8 **THE CASTLE IN THE FOREST** 1 (14)
by Norman Maclean
- 9 **SUITE FRANCAISE** 1 (14)
by Irene Hellenstein
- 10 **BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE** 1 (14)
by Thomas Harris

Non-fiction

- 1 **THE BODILY EVOLUTION** 1 (14)
by Richard Dawkins
- 2 **PALESTINE: PEACE NOT ANATHEM** by Jimmy Carter 3 (14)
- 3 **THE WASHINGTON DIARIES** 1 (14)
by Allen Ginsberg
- 4 **RIGHT SIDE UP** by Paul Wells 3 (14)
- 5 **KIND KIDDER TEAR** 1 (14)
by Catherine Jones
- 6 **THE FEMALE DREAM** 1 (14)
by Lauren Berlant
- 7 **ABOUT ALICE** by Celine Triclin 1 (14)
- 8 **THEOPHILUS** 1 (14)
by Paul Carlsberg
- 9 **DEEPER, FURTHER IN THE** 1 (14)
by David Shields and John Ortved
- 10 **NOODLE IN CHINA** 1 (14)
by Margaret Macdonald

one and you want to be with her finest and good, that's beautiful, you generally need a professional to help you say it in a fresh way. With the iconic love songs—the ones that Rod Stewart sings like *Great American* *Seagulls* (Delmark)—there's a lot of autobiography, no melodies if you ever do find yourself in a love worthy of *I Had It In You*, *As Time Goes By*, *The Way We Look Tonight*, *I'll Be Seeing You*, you'll be too much to look at the fresh songs or original metaphor. So instead, a couple of half-working professionals at down and write it, and say it for everyone. And don't let a new love to look at the whole music but that can teach you how to do that. ■



RADIO-CANADA'S La job. The plot is familiar, but what's behind the near-perfect recreation of the original Office boss?

Ricky Gervais gets La job au Québec

There's never been an adaptation of the British comedy 'The Office' quite like this one

BY PAUL WELLS • It's appropriate that the boss character in La job, Rickard Cormier's television adaptation of the hit British comedy franchise The Office, named David Gervais. As played by Antoine Vitez, David Gervais is a virtual clone of the original character, David Brent, created by Ricky Gervais. Well, that's a lot of names. Let's walk through it again. A real guy named Ricky Gervais played a Jewish television boss named David Brent on a Jewish television boss named David Gervais. Got it? And the resemblance goes way beyond mere names: Vitez's near-perfect recreation of Gervais-only-paly guy in rumpled dress shirt, prone to chaoticism cruelty, leaping across and sweeping, easily delicate head gestures—is the most striking element of La job. In fact, it's comically dismissing La job is a pretty good comedy show built around one divisive imitation.

This is the fourth time The Office, which Gervais and Stephen Merchant created for the BBC in 2001, has been reborn for a new British audience. The show's premise—crushed hope and failed romance in a gloomy work place—is universal. Gervais's ability to tap into that rich vein of Kafkaesque frustration has made him the most renowned chronicler of workplace despair in our time, with Kalka

The most famous adaptation of Gervais's show is, of course, The Office on NBC, with Steve Carell now in his third season as the regional manager of the Dunder Mifflin paper company's Scranton branch. But there is also a version in Germany, Scandinavia, with Christoph Wittenberg as the boss, brutal boss. In one episode, Wittenberg leads a role playing session on cultural sensitivity by socking a Post-it note into female employee's

breastband identifying her as HITLER.

In France, meanwhile, there's La Breaux, where the responsibility—money you charging in the British. American and German versions—is a dandy party babe who would turn heads in La Ciotat. In the British and American versions, the office itself (Gervais/Dwight) is famous to discover that the under-achieving everyman (Jon Hamm) has created his struggle in Jell-O. In the French version, Paul puts a wedge of Brie cheese on Jell-O's desk drawer.

So cultural differences dictate local variations on the Office theme. And so it is with the Québécois version. Its plot is familiar from the show's earlier versions. David Gervais is the manager of the Papier Jennings Papers office in the post-industrial wasteland of Côte-de-Léves. (This point is never made in the three episodes I screened, but this would probably put Papier Jennings Papers on the phone Don's federal electoral district.) His storylines repeat, compressed. David Gervais, with Jean-Claude de Léves will either share the real Québécois boss, or be shadowed by it. Meanwhile, the underachieving everyman, Louis Tremblay (played by Sébastien Huberdeau), is getting ahead in any way possible. Anne Vitez (Sophie Cadieux)

Louis doesn't see Anne's vagina in Jell-O or put line in his desk drawer. He just doesn't

care to throw the napkin out the window. This is an assembly workshop and therefore identifiably Québécois instead of making hell, a be like the annual weekly party every June 23 on the Plains of Abraham, but it's also evidence of the extraordinarily sensitive themes La job relies with the Office franchise formula.

But come to think of it, there's something identifiably Québécois about the way Vitez tackles the lead role. The accent playing the German, American and French bosses made no attempt at characterizations of Ricky Gervais. But more than any other culture I know, Québecois humour holds impressions in high regard. And Philippe Gagnon's cartoon version of We're the World was the most famous example, but if you sit through a French-language play at Montréal's state four there's already done it, you're going to hear three or four impressions. Probably at least two will do this version of Michael Jackson. Perhaps it's because pop culture in Québec is less European than in larger English-speaking societies. A comedy of recognition works well in Québec because almost everyone shares the same cultural references. Mind you, the number of francophone Québécois who've seen Ricky Gervais play David Brent must be vanishingly small. Still, the temptation is there in an impression, instead of creating a new character, would come naturally to Vitez. So the most closely viewed aspect of La job is, instead, a reflection of the distinct society where it's set. ■



ACCORDING TO TV—FASHION TRENDS

"Here in New York City it's the beginning of Fashion Week, it's that exciting time of year when we get a preview of the underpents that Britney Spears was last wearing." —David Letterman
"This week at a fashion show in Rome, a line of dresses were introduced that feature huge pictures of Hillary Clinton's face. When he heard this, Bill Clinton said, 'Finally! Hillary's face on another woman's body!'" —Conan O'Brien

ILLUSTRATION: KATHY GUNTER

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music



VALERY GERGIEV, 47, of the Canadian Opera Company. He has been named principal conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic.

The Wayne Gretzky of conducting

Canadian symphony orchestra leaders have never set the world on fire. Until now.

BY STEPHEN CERA • He may not yet be a household name in this country, though comparable achievements in other fields—hockey, business, or film—would by now probably have done the trick. Valéry Nézet-Séguin, 47, happens to be a symphony orchestra conductor—the only one from Canada in recent generations to land a major post abroad. The comparative rarity of outstanding Canadian conductors seems puzzling (some notable exceptions: Mario Bernardi, 76, the first leader of Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra, and Evan Abel, 42, a specialist in French opera). Certainly we have produced singers and at least one pianist (Glenn Gould) who set the world on fire—but no conductors.

Nézet-Séguin's professional development owes much to the environment he found at his native Montreal. He knew at the age of 10 that he wanted to conduct. Afterward, studying music at Montreal's Conservatoire de Musique du Québec and elsewhere, he was invited to become assistant conductor of the Opéra de Montréal at age 23. At 24, he was offered the assistant directorship of Montreal's No. 1 orchestra, the Orchestre Métropolitain, with whom his relationship has blossomed since 2000. In 2004 he made the CBC's *Montreal Star* list together for the ATMA Chavivox label, with a fifth scheduled for release this week.

Alain Huser, associate professor of orchestral conducting at McGill University's Schulich School of Music and artistic director of the McGill Symphony Orchestra, calls Nézet-Séguin "a major talent," adding that "the experience he was able to get right here in his home was priceless in every way. Frankly, I don't know any other major city in the world, let alone in Canada, where an unknown local talent would have been given such an oppor-

tunity." Add to this consistent support from the Montreal media, the fact that the internationally respected Montreal Symphony was auditioned for six years between the tenures of Charles Dutoit and René Jacquot, and the opportunity to lead three commercial CDs, and you have ingredients for success—especially given Valéry's talent and ambition.

"The most important thing in my life so far" is how Nézet-Séguin describes his mentoring sessions 20 years ago with the late Italian conductor, Carlo Maria Giulini, whom he sought out at the end of the veteran musician's career. "It was a great privilege for me." But the career breakthrough came last December, when Nézet-Séguin was named principal conductor of the prestigious Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra in the Netherlands (Pda initial four-year contract takes effect in 2010). He was the unanimous choice of the musicians to succeed Valéry Gergiev, one of the most famous living conductors. Asked why there haven't been more famous Canadian conductors, Nézet-Séguin confesses, "I don't have the distance to analyze that very much."

Meanwhile, he continues to guest conduct some of Europe's most renowned orchestras while maintaining an active post at Canada. At a recent rehearsal with the Canadian Opera Company orchestra in Toronto, he prepared

performances of Gounod's *Romeo* (the run extends to Feb. 24). On the podium, he exudes calm authority and youthful brio. A career dynamo who speaks excellent English, he has a self-posessed manner that is informal but concentrated, and full of humor—arriving to describe one of director Nicholas Mee's stage images in *Romeo* to the orchestra at that rehearsal, he suggested "It's like soft porn."

What qualities attracted the Rotterdam Philharmonic to the young maestro? "Choosing a principal conductor is much like falling in love and starting a relationship," says Jacquot, the orchestra's managing director. "You can bring together a fine state orchestra and a wonderful conductor, and still find out that the magic is lacking... [We] recognized exactly what happened when Valéry, guided with the Rotterdam Philharmonic." Jacquot also calls him a "gilded connoisseur" who will enhance the orchestra's educational programs and community art projects.

Huser, of the McGill faculty, observes that this is not the first time Montreal has played an important role at the beginning of a young conductor's international career. Zubin Mehta, a native of Bombay, was 24 at the time of his 1966 appointment as music director of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. He went on to become the longest tenured leader of the New York Philharmonic. Whether or not Valéry's career rises to that level, Montreal can take pride in having supplied a launching pad for one of its own. ■



BARENAKED LADIES... HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY
 What if you were not just for show? / What if you were not good to get? / What if you were simply out to be beautiful? / What if you were not thin and sexy? / What if you were close with it all? / What if you were not baby-doll beautiful? / Beautiful (don't she?) / Beautiful (spoil to be) / Beautiful (when I love) / Beautiful (can't you see) —from *Beautiful* by Barenaked Ladies (Arista)

THIS YEAR'S OSCAR host is comedian Ellen DeGeneres. Previous hosts have included Billy Crystal (left) and, last year, Joe Stewart

Oscar's no fun until the host bombs

If Ellen DeGeneres is too mean, the stars will be mad. If she's too nice, we'll feel cheated.

BY JAMES F. WHELAN - After we've heard the best Director award, what question are left to ask about this year's Academy Awards (Feb. 25)? Just one, but the most important one of all: what kind of host will entertain Ellen DeGeneres? *Go! Go! Go!*, who has produced many Academy Awards shows, tells *MediaWeek* that the host's job is "to move the show along, to peck it, to keep it interesting." One of the things that seems to provoke the most interest is whether or not the host will bomb. Could even how an unimpressive the event is, be someone like host's struggles as the only thing worth watching in it.

Last year, most coverage focused on the issue of how Joe Stewart did as a first-time host ("I sucked, and was great," was how he summed up the initial review). When Oscar hosts fail, their failures become legendary. David Letterman's 1995 appearance was a disaster; he was once a famously witty host. "Bombing" in an Oscar host certainly hasn't hurt Letterman's ability to earn a living. And old times will talk of the one Jerry Lewis ended the broadcast by sitting every one up stage to dance, which caused him to be booed from leaving again.

The reason Oscar hosts have such a difficult time is that they're playing to two very different audiences simultaneously. When Ellen DeGeneres takes the stage, she'll have to appeal to the theory audience, consisting entirely of Hollywood insiders. But the show's ratings depend on her connecting with a very different audience at home, an audience of outsiders. Chicago Tribune TV critic Marcia Ryan says that the Hollywood insider "in the reds how to start and creative they think they are, and if you aren't their friend or their very confidante to them, they'll turn on the

host." That's what happened to Stewart at certain points last year, with his jokes about Hollywood's pretensions, it's also what happened to Chevy Chase, when he started his hosting gig with the words "Good evening, Hollywood please."

But it's not just that the host can turn off the theory crowd; sometimes he can underwhelm to the TV crowd by making the material too hard. For one thing, the viewer at home has different uses for people in Hollywood. Letterman turned off the theory audience by doing the same old jokes on TV every night—asking Tim Hanks to help with Scud. Per Truitt—but some of his jokes were popular on TV even as they fell flat in the theater. Comedians that a danger of trying to appeal to both viewers is that the host will wind up being "too bland," but in many ways the truth is the opposite: while the comedian laugh at *Mad* jokes designed to make them, comedians are more open to jokes that Letterman's famous introduction of Uma Thurman and Oprah Winfrey ("Uma, Oprah").

But it's not just that comedians have a different sense of humor from Hollywood insiders, they are also openly hostile to each other. Comedian David Byrne says that the people who watch at home like to feel that they're in an insider party, and that may be true to some extent. But when people recognize and celebrity

scandals are creating a sense of cynicism about show business people, viewers don't want to be part of the Hollywood crowd, nor do they want the host to be too nice to all these self-absorbed people. Ryan explains, "We like seeing stars mocked and made fun of. If the host makes the show feel too serious, it's the show itself, all the better."

That sense of cynicism was the best to attack Hollywood insiders, not just up to them last year, author Anne Prosser now has Joe Stewart as her ally in the battle against the Hollywood philosophy who had denied the best Picture award to a movie based on her work (*Braveheart*). Stewart, she wrote, "was too witty, too quick, too eastern perhaps for the somewhat dim L.A. crowd." It's just the time when Bob Hage, who hosted more times than anyone else, could please everyone with some mild jokes. Now the TV viewers' pleasure comes from the surprising and surprising of the people who are actually at the event.

As to DeGeneres, his previous hosts such as Bob Hope and Billy Crystal, will have to surely the push him coming for him Hollywood jokes while recognizing the insiders' anger. No matter how much the prize-time audience may enjoy it, *Academy* members don't like being dominated by the host. Ryan explains why. "It's really important that the host has a credibility that is relevant to the crowd." Ryan explains it a little differently: "News can be very nice, but it's not."



PERFORMANCE OF THE WEEK: THE DARK SIDE

Wearing a Chewbacca costume, Star Wars performer Peter Erik Young was arrested last week in front of Vancouver's Chinese Theatre in L.A. and charged with indecent exposure for allegedly head-buttling a four-year-old. Young reportedly went over to the side of the stage asked him to stop harassing two young Japanese tourists. Some Internet sites believe that when Young didn't pay for taking their pictures.

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1st Place

**Toronto Police Service
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
& Microsoft Canada
Financial Exploration Tracking
System (FETS)**

PROBLEM: Over 100,000 of online fraud-related issues was reported in 2006, resulting in significant financial loss.

SOLUTION: A state-of-the-art software system for law enforcement and sharing information between police forces.

RESULTS: Police forces in 10 provinces and CETS created a new online tracking system for tracking and reporting fraud cases from 10 provinces.

WHY IT WORKS: An integrated research and analysis system, the optimum for law enforcement and policy development and implementation. Microsoft Service of Excellence.

2nd Place

**Mr. William Henderson
& Munro Financial
Innovative Financial Immigration
Employment Council (IFIEC)**

PROBLEM: Unemployment and underemployment among skilled immigrants.

SOLUTION: Build the skills of individual workers, engage and educate employers, improve public policy.

RESULTS: 100 fully employed participants, 37% success rate in internship programs and 130 participating employers; permanent new organization to be launched in 2007 to address the long-term needs of immigrants entering the labour force.

WHY IT WORKS: The collective skills and expertise of both partners, thoughtfully integrated into all aspects of the project: development, administration and oversight.

3rd Place

**Big Brothers & Big Sisters
of Calgary & Area
& First Calgary Savings
A Partnership for Children**

PROBLEM: Lack of mentorship and support for at-risk youth.

SOLUTION: A mentorship program that provides support and guidance for at-risk youth, designed to address the complex needs of children struggling with a variety of social issues.

RESULTS: A permanent and growing mentoring program that builds resilience and enhances the well-being of children through healthy relationships with mentors.

WHY IT WORKS: The successful marriage of development, volunteerism, the well-known mentoring expertise, a social services leader and support for elementary schools.



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FIRST OF ALL, the father admits parents, respect your son's hunger. Boys involved in sports can require up to 4,000 calories a day.

How to feed your teenage son

Just what you need—all that food in the house while you're trying to lose weight

BY JULIA MCINNELL — How tedious a dinner job may be the first self-help book to tackle the problem of how to sustain a ravish son, make teenage appetite fit precisely the moment when parents are worried about their own waistlines. When mother Georgia Orsatti's two sons reached teenhood, she felt overwhelmed. "It was a more challenge to keep the pantry and refrigerator stocked [My husband] and I were busier than ever with our work lives, and we'd also started to cut back on calories." There was another problem: Orsatti doesn't mind cooking, she says, but she began to wonder whether the increased demand to buy food and prepare it would spoil the boys. Would they ever learn to look after themselves? She set out on a project to provide them with easy access to healthy food while initiating them into a new era of feeding for themselves.

First of all, she advises parents, respect your teenage son's hunger, don't denigrate it. Boys involved in sports can require up to 4,000 calories a day. Less active teens may still need 1,800, while some parents eat as few as 1,500. What's more, don't assume boys will naturally learn to prepare for meals, says Orsatti. "The general message they have received since they were babies is that they deserve special foods, separate from what grown-ups eat. These foods come packaged in appealing, brightly coloured boxes, and accompanied by TV ads that prove these boys eat right."

The parent is responsible for the what, where and when of eating, concludes Orsatti. Two times out of 10, she writes, teenage boys will "rip open a bag of cookies or chips rather than open the refrigerator to make a healthy sandwich." It's the parent's responsibility to

keep a non-stop supply of healthy snacks in plain view. Leave bowls of fresh fruit and washed parsnips on the kitchen counter. On the other hand, don't be such a stickler about prohibiting junk food that it becomes forbidden. Orsatti's guests in C. restaurant Justin Korman. "The reason you say no [to junk food], the more it's valued." Adds Orsatti: "Let some things go under the radar."

In Enfield, Ont., Allison and John Van derkorp feed themselves and three teenage sons on grocery budgets of \$300 a week. Last October, John decided it was time to lose weight. As part of his new eating plan, the family switched from regular pasta to whole wheat and from white rice to brown. John's lost 15 lb. but the new menu has been an adjustment, reports their eldest son, Sam, 18. "At first I thought, 'Whole wheat pasta? What's that?' But now I don't mind it," Sam says. "And [brother] never ate to white rice anyway. It's got a milder texture. There's been an increase in fish, and baked food like squash. We've been having a lot of speech: 'My mom told you that if we have more junk food in the house, we'll start but I don't necessarily agree with that. If I'm full, I'll turn down a bag of chips before I'll turn down a bowl of my dad's spaghetti and meatballs.'"

Convincing boys to eat a nutritious breakfast is critical, writes Orsatti. For Allison, this means "getting often the boys will have left over roast beef or taco burrito served late for breakfast," she explained in an email. "I find dinner foods are a lot more delicious," says Sam. "I've even craved from spaghetti to stir-fry for breakfast."

The Vanderkorp boys enjoy eating salad, especially Caesar. But if your son is vegetarian, Orsatti suggests buying several of the best salad dressings and pouring a sample of each into a set of mason jars. Get him to dip carrot sticks and lettuce into each dressing, allowing him to pick his favourite, says Orsatti. Following this, "make a salad and top it with his dressing. Over time add bits of squash and other more interesting dark greens and red lettuce."

As for feeding for himself, don't assume he knows how to do anything in the kitchen, says Orsatti. "Show him how to peel carrots, chop onions, open a can of tuna fish, and crack eggs." Teach him how to scramble eggs, how to prepare a simple stir fry.

Orsatti recommends assembling the ingredients for sandwich-making into a Ziploc bag and leaving it in the fridge. This way, everything is at his own reach, she says, honest and honest. Orsatti's two oldest sons, when school and Orsatti is in the kitchen, the sisters have a cup of tea. "Parents of children sleep at most more than they want to," she says. "But a sandwich is a different thing psychologically because you're an adult. It's not going to cut this, this is for the kids." ■



MOST IMPROVED. JENNIFER ANISTON After starring in tabloid rumors about possible breast and nose jobs (she claimed her recent visit to an L.A. plastic surgeon was to fix a deviated septum), the former *Friends* star made her directorial debut with *Meet Joe Black*, which earned rave reviews at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival last week. Aniston's film, starring Robin Wright Penn and Kris Kristofferson, is about a nurse who rebuilds her life because of a relationship with a girl at

Clowns, Cuba Gooding, Jr. and football



SCOTT FISCHLER

On the morning of Super Bowl XLII, as Americans prepared to coruscate their God given right to wage on everything from the last corn of the corn to the most number of pygmy lions living in Tank Johnson's thigh fat, I tumbled on the television shortly after it clocked Darwin. "I'm a scientist," enthused Clark Bernier, host of Sunday NFL Countdown. Bernier introduced a correspondent as a nice guy who was holding a paper plate weighed down by a mound of dirt and grass. What ensued was an in-depth discussion of how the turf would react if rain fell during the game (the verdict: it would probably get wet). Then, I learned just how massive "ol' kickin'" and already they'd run out of time, non-stop topics to discuss. Not a good sign.

As a sidekick, the official CBS pre-game show began with the recorded version of "Cuba Gooding, Jr." (Wow, Cuba Gooding, Jr. I just love him [which had a snag he couldn't get out of]) Then out Gooding's experience-plugging came new music—a harbinger of my future-headed promotional videos to come. As one point, former Prosa hit poppers we're simply laid out on the desk as if we were lazily reclined on in the glitzing game paddocks and the parcel of former football players unceremoniously snatched and aerial forced brought to the Phil's culinary supremacy. The subsequent sound you may have heard was America collectively dying a little inside.

"There is tremendous anticipation," we were assured at 5:01 p.m. There are "thousands filled boxes ahead," we were warned at 5:04 p.m. They are "lying out of their tracks," we affirmed at 5:24 p.m. Herewith, the most cogent evidence that 450 hours may be paid a cut and exposure for any pre-game show not followed by the Second Coming: the unrelenting footage of a guy pranc-

ing for the corn tips, including several instances of him "kicking" his thumb.

- the lengthy frozen in which two other guys go for a place ride with the six foot for some reason
- the segment in which the Super Bowl trophy is given the power of speech and imagines going out on the town in Miami, coinciding with the lounge, "Well, folks, a trophy can always, can't it?"
- the fact that I didn't make up even one of these examples.

The Super Bowl pregame show is a pre-cum to come, the birthplace of the World's



Cirque du Soleil's pre-game show featured dancers straight from clown college

Most Dazzling Whiteout ("This most dazzling spectacle... the promise of lifelong happiness... the pursuit of golden moments...") and a glowing symbol of America's countless determination to find new ways of putting the names of corporations in front of other, less important words. After such delights as the CMC Keys to Victory and the McDonald's Playoff President, viewers could be excused for nothing everyone at CBS a little Advil Thawns to the Groat.

For Canadians, missing out on the Super Bowl commercials isn't the grievous affliction it once was, with the ad being readily available online. Besides, the wireless game Global the unparalleled opportunity to promote all its original, high quality Canadian-made programs like... or... uh... well, hell, this is a newsworthy... Got that? (Horse Mandel prance for the 45th time!)

Speaking of CarGen, Cirque du Soleil scored a grand and enduring American tradition by putting on a pre-game extravaganza that melted the sweet spot between polaris and eye glassing. Some performers walked around. Others jumped in the air. Some walked there jumped. All were attired in a manner to suggest Herb

Balick growling from clown college. The segment was introduced with the words, "One day, one game, one clown." After about 10 minutes, I found myself inadvertently taking one nap. (And hey, did you see those guys prancing around the field pregame to be baffled? I thought the Black n had been clocked.)

Things didn't get much better, but they did get closer. Steve Nicks performed. Billy Joel did the western. (By the way, Prince came out for the halftime show, the 1989 Super Bowl had Elton a court case understanding the norm of its rightful momentary)



Then, mid, Prince's halftime performance did manage to answer a question that's been nagging at us for years: what would Aunt Jennifer look like as a clown? Or were those Prince's long lost underpans on his head? Either way, even a good thing that Super Bowl experience isn't booked. Michael Jackson's run was coming down so hard in Miami that it would have landed his face right off.

At the end of the day, I'm sure the players who (eventually) took the field ended up tired and sore—but nobody could have been as far out exhausted as the Player of Timmy Mase, who was pressed into service for "one-on-one" pen game time about Bill Walsh's leadership, Walter Payton's career, Brian Piccolo's sausage, a selfish mother who ended in the coal mines, a black player who was tortured as a child because his mother is Korean, and a second player who desperately needs a kidney transplant. All this, plus the tragedy of Katie Couric's hands. Who'll find Phil's disease? Life-threatening affliction! A bad case of the flu? Are you ready for some football? M

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ROSTEIN DIDN'T waste any of his time keeping a close eye

Discussion

SITUATION NORMAL, ALL FOULED UP

[illegible]

PRODUCT

IT REALLY SUCKS

The Electrokin Inventory (available cost: \$500 for 1 type) is compact, sturdy and upright, with a folding handle that makes storage simple. By housing the dust bag just inches from the clean-airhead, it effectively sucks up the smallest traces of dust, hair and other debris. The machine



After Effects

175

**AN ARRESTING
PERFORMANCE**

As a poor seamstress from Surrey, Juliette Benedict (Cherished) offers an inspired performance as the other woman in *Breakfast and Evening*—Academy-nominee's film about Londoners behaving badly. Benedict, whose character becomes romantically entangled with a married architect (Jude Law), shifts effortlessly from naive to cunning when she realizes how her sex won't even help protect her son (John Byrne).



EVE

ALEX P. KEATON
FOR PRESIDENT

He may have earned a leather
bustle on his school lap and his
the *Wall Street Journal* and
his bed like it was porn, but
his TV sitcom *Republicans* has
ever been as colourful and
wowed as Alex P. Keaton—the
family fix character—the
named Michael J. Fox onto a
star. Now, with the DVD
release of season one of this
the *Chicago* and *Chicago* and

MUSIC

ALL THE KIDS ARE LISTENING TO IT

Don't hold it against Australia's North Groupie due date by Internet courtesy of THeOC. Some one has to make indie pop cut through the network maelstrom as it might as well be someone who does it well. Lushly produced and bristling with mellocks, *Cinema Terrible Days* plays like a less morose (and less ambivalent) *Death Cab for Cutie* album.

When you're feeling unfortunate or enough to star in your own teen drama, you could do worse than to rue it up. Adam Bachman



1995

SHORT AND SWEET

nerveless you can go home again. On her seventh solo disc, *When My Mind's Made Up*, Monaghan's Julie Dornon reconnects with her former bandmates from *Erin's* Chicago-based hip-hop act in Cranston, Rhode Island, and unapologetically grows the point. Running just 30 minutes, the 11 hip-hop/country/countryballadeers exude every thing from the joys of parent hood to lust-love and bad choices. Dornon's brother vocals have never disappeared, and her on-stage is filled with

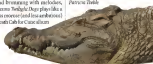
pry, she's going down. But this album is more—alcohol, rough-edged and rocking. jonatha Goodhouse



TV

HUNTERS OF SKY AND WATER

(PBS) *Nature* series includes its 25th anniversary with two terrific one-hour documentaries in *Imagined Ones* (Feb. 11), a scrupulous expert says not to do the impossible—and measure giant ill-translated replica capable of holding 30 kmh lungs. And in *Raptor Force* (Feb. 10), a flyweight camera crew follows a peregrine falcon across Western a spectacular hawk with its 300-kmh dive. *Nature* is magnificent, just not always pretty. Patricia Thiele



ISABELLA MILLER HARAGA

1941-2007

She was a champion barrel racer. Rodeoing was her livelihood—and horses were her life.

Isabella Miller Haraga, nee Hamilton, was born in Calgary on Jan. 18, 1941, but grew up 10 km south of there, near the hamlet of DeWinton, Alta. Her parents, RBO and Ruth, owned rolling farmland with views of the mountains and, looking west to the north, a lone, distant strip of Calgary lights. Isabella, known in Calgary, rode her first horse at the age of six months. "I had one the baby," said Ruth before perching her in the lap on the saddle. "We should have realized then that her little would be a world of horses," says Ruth.

Izzy and her brothers, Billy and Sam, rode each morning to their own rodeo school, and even to their ponies they assumed after their chores. The good looks, the image of the film-screen buckdancer, was far from a secret. "I was a real buckdancer where, says Ruth. "They also did a lot of our hair." One evening, some from a movie, Izzy, playing sheriff and planning to lead on her pony, jumped from a shy off the pony as she while, had wandered off. "She was a holy terror," says Ruth. "She was the most active kid and she was a beautiful little girl."

In the rodeo she soon dominated. Izzy's hair—long, practically blond and flowing from beneath a black bra—became her signature. At 11 she was piloting a horse into the family van and setting out the rodeo across Alberta. Such escapades displeased Ruth, who enrolled her into secretarial school. "I figured she would learn something besides horses," she says. A life-changing job with a Calgary trading firm soon forced her into options and high heels. She heard a week before Bill called her back to the farm. "I think she was home in 10 min. then," says Ruth.

Rodeoing became her livelihood. Izzy bred, broke and trained quarter horses—the spinners who pop out for their agility—and could thread them through the curve of the barrel race, a woman's event, with supernatural speed and confidence. Still, the Canadian Pro Rodeo Association failed to recognize the prowess of cowgirls. At 17, after helping establish a rodeo club for girls, Izzy started into a series of Calgary Stampede or painters demanding they permit barrel racing. The next year, the Stampede slated the event for hold-it day (it has since become a regular event, with prizes, at \$10,000, matching those for men). "Back then they thought women should be in the kitchen," she later said. "We showed them we can be in the kitchen and in the arena." By 1960,

she had won or become Canadian barrel racing champion.

She was in her room when the rest her first husband, Mel Miller, with whom she had three kids—Belle Ruth, Robbie June and Tyler A. marmes. Mel, a former rodeo star and, later, a successful, died of "cancer and Rosetta's" her "worst enemy." It was a bad marriage. When Mel left, Izzy, now alone with the kids, survived by doing a school bus and acting as a housewife (they soon commanded prices as high as \$130,000). Then John Stein, a film producer, called on Izzy to work horses and perform stunts on Hollywood productions outside Calgary. Still in her early 10s, Izzy was coaching Charles Bronson and,

on the side, followed the bus, ended Paul Newman's ship station. Prizes for local rodeo and crew became a success story, with Izzy's hair being at each other's best, appear stars. In one, Izzy rode a series of horses down a mountain and before falling off the horse, he died, nailed to the wood, was away on a car to reveal an old-fashioned corner.

Izzy loved whisky melted by water, which she drank popping chocolates. At a joke, she'd slip her thigh, declaring "Belly be damned." Yet if she was fearless, she was not unopposed by heart, undergoing open heart surgery in her 40s. The shock, coupled with drugs for an irregular heart beat, caused her beautiful hair to fall out. Izzy showed what was left, keeping her hair, which was turned grey, then from then on.

In 2000, Ruth, frustrated Izzy to accompany her to a rodeo. There, Izzy stumbled upon a man she'd known as a girl—Arnold Haraga, a one-time Canadian oil and rodeo champion—who asked her out. In 2001, while driving to find Izzy owned in Marquette, Ariz., she and Arnold stopped at a Hollywood Wedding Chapel, in Las Vegas, and married. "Why don't we?" Arnold had asked. "Oh, what the hell," said Izzy, who was in her early 60s.

Despite her health, Izzy continued rodeoing. In 2005, she was inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, only the second woman to receive the distinction. Arnold and Izzy, meanwhile, divided their lives between a farm in Skiff, Alta., and DeWinton, where Calgary had become a blaze of lights outside her window. Last October, Arnold died of blood cancer. Then, on Jan. 26, in Marquette, Izzy's horse stumbled, knocking her to the ground. Izzy stood and brushed herself off. The following day, a starting fire near her found Izzy collapsed in her truck. Her fall had caused a massive aneurysm. Izzy died the following day—two days shy of her 66th birthday. ■



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